



Lincoln Vital Signs 2019 Report

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VERSION 1.0

Prepared By



The University of Nebraska Public Policy Center is a university-wide, multidisciplinary research and outreach center committed to addressing complex issues by linking academic research, stakeholder opinions, and practical experience through innovative and creative solutions.

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Executive Summary

Since 2014, **Lincoln Vital Signs**, authored by the University of Nebraska Public Policy Center, has been a community-wide data resource. The 2019 Lincoln Vital Signs report is sponsored by Lincoln's and Nebraska's largest public and private charitable organizations. Lincoln Vital Signs 2019 continues the tradition of providing credible, reliable information about Lincoln, compared to its recent past and to other communities in the United States. Data from the report are used by organizations and individuals to inform decisions, spark connections, and spur collaboration. You can view the report, along with new interactive graphs, at lincolnvitalsigns.org.

Lincoln Vital Signs presents data in chapters covering: Community Profile, Economy & Workforce, Basic Needs, Education, Health, and Safety & Security.

In 2019, Lincoln Vital Signs finds:

- 1. Lincoln is prospering and growing stronger.**
- 2. Persistent weaknesses stymie progress.**

The opportunities and challenges identified in past Lincoln Vital Signs reports led to the creation of Prosper Lincoln (prosperlincoln.org), promoting collective impact action in: Early Childhood, Innovative Workforce, Affordable Housing, Strong Neighborhoods, and Civic Investments.

Learn more at lincolnvitalsigns.org

About the Report



Lincoln Vital Signs

Be informed. Get Involved.

Lincoln Vital Signs 2019 presents over 100 charts, graphs, and maps to illustrate trends in our community. When looked at holistically, the data suggest areas of improvement and continued challenges.

The 2019 Lincoln Vital Signs Report Finds:

1. Lincoln is prospering and growing stronger.

Already strong, Lincoln is flourishing. Adults are educated and engaged in work. New and existing businesses are creating jobs. Buildings and civic spaces are appearing. Our streets are safe. Greater proportions of our youth are from diverse backgrounds. Working together, Lincoln has bent the trajectories of homelessness, need for crisis services, and lack of access to high quality childcare.

2. Persistent weaknesses stymie progress.

In a time of growth, not everyone is prospering. Most Lincoln families have not regained pre-Great Recession income levels. Lincoln's low cost of living does not offset our lower incomes. Persons from racial and ethnic minority populations struggle to achieve equity in educational attainment, employment, and income. We have unprecedented geographic concentrations of extreme poverty and poor health.

Learn more at lincolnvital signs.org

Lincoln Vital Signs: Helping Lincoln Prosper

Lincoln Vital Signs helped Lincoln become aware of our opportunities and challenges and led to a community-wide agenda-setting process, Prosper Lincoln (prosperlincoln.org). Thousands of people were involved in setting the 2017-2019 community agenda (Early Childhood, Employment Skills, and Innovation).

The results of 2017-2019 have been impressive, including: hundreds of new high-quality early childhood placements; \$600,000 raised to support access to early childhood programs for low-income families; local companies mobilizing to support access to high-quality early childhood care for young families; hundreds of businesses connecting with public agencies to recruit employees; thousands of university and high school students connecting to internships and careers offered by local employers; and businesses implementing new practices to remove barriers and recruit valued employees.

From 2020-2024, Prosper Lincoln is deepening and broadening of the work with five areas of focus:

- 1. Early Childhood - All children will have access to high quality early childhood care and education** leading to a more available workforce today and a smarter workforce tomorrow.
- 2. Innovative Workplace - People will have careers and employers retain skilled talent in a culture of innovation** to fuel economic success for businesses and lift workers out of poverty.
- 3. Affordable Housing - All residents will live in affordable housing** leading to healthier and more stable families.
- 4. Strong Neighborhoods - Neighborhoods will thrive through investments in people and places** creating robust and attractive places for residents to live.
- 5. Civic Investment - Major new civic investments will create sustainable opportunities to work, live, and play** resulting in a stronger and more vibrant city.

Be informed.
Get involved.

Lincoln Vital Signs





Community Profile

Lincoln is a growing community. In the past decade, **Lincoln's overall population has grown by 33,391 residents, or 13%**. Since 2009, Lincoln's **growth rate of the retirement-age population has outpaced that of the working age and younger populations**. Lincoln is **becoming more racially and ethnically diverse**: Lincoln's White non-Hispanic/Latinx population has dropped from comprising 85% of Lincoln's overall population in 2009 to now comprising 79%. Compared to other cities across the United States, Lincoln is in the **top third for overall well-being**.

Population

Lincoln's population has grown 13% Since 2009

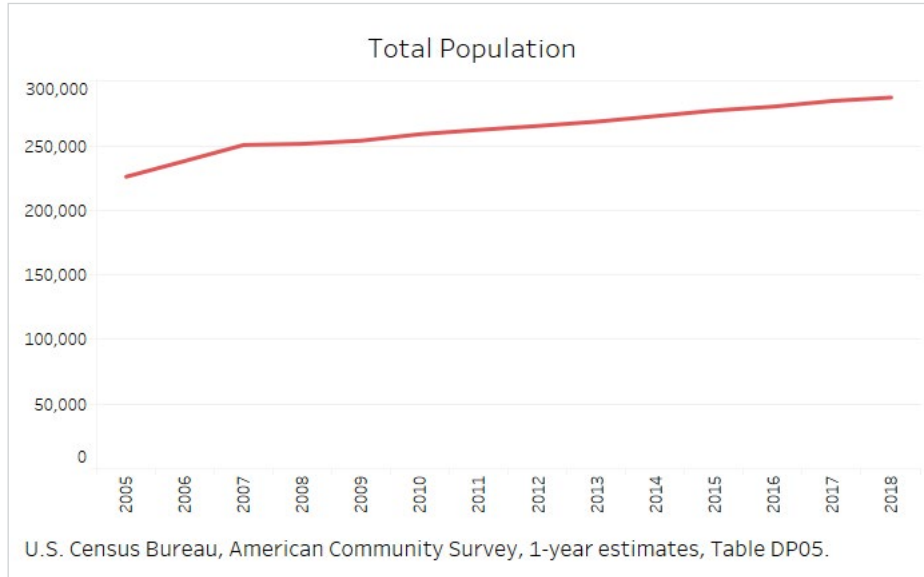


Figure 1

Similar to other urbanized communities in Nebraska, Lincoln has experienced population growth over the past decade.

- Lincoln now has more than 287,000 residents; 33,391 more since 2009.
- Lincoln's population has grown 13% since 2009.

Population Growth

Lincoln's growth rate has been low for the past decade

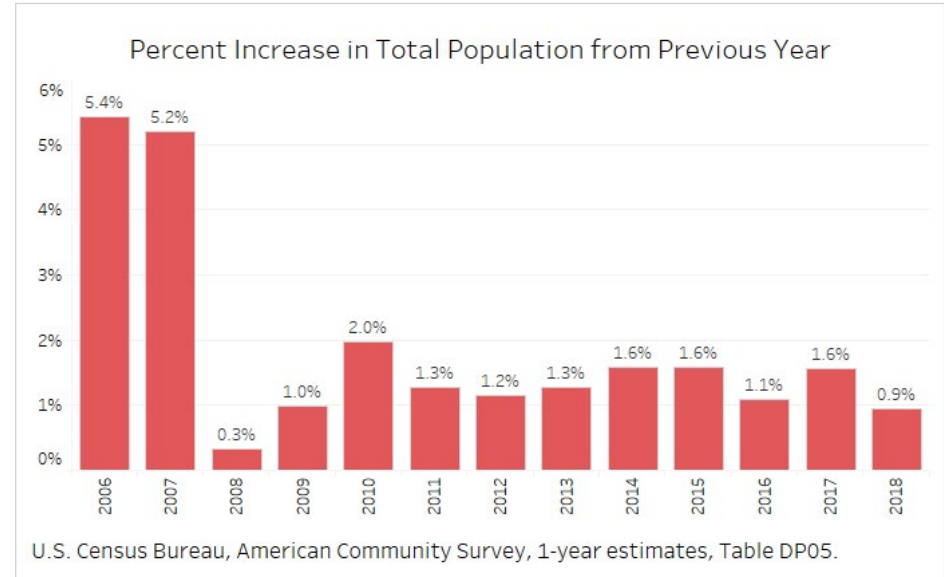


Figure 2

- Since 2009, Lincoln's population has grown annually at a rate of 1% to 2% per year.
- From 2006 to 2007, Lincoln's growth rate was over 5% per year.

Population by Age Group

Lincoln's 65+ age group has grown the most since 2009

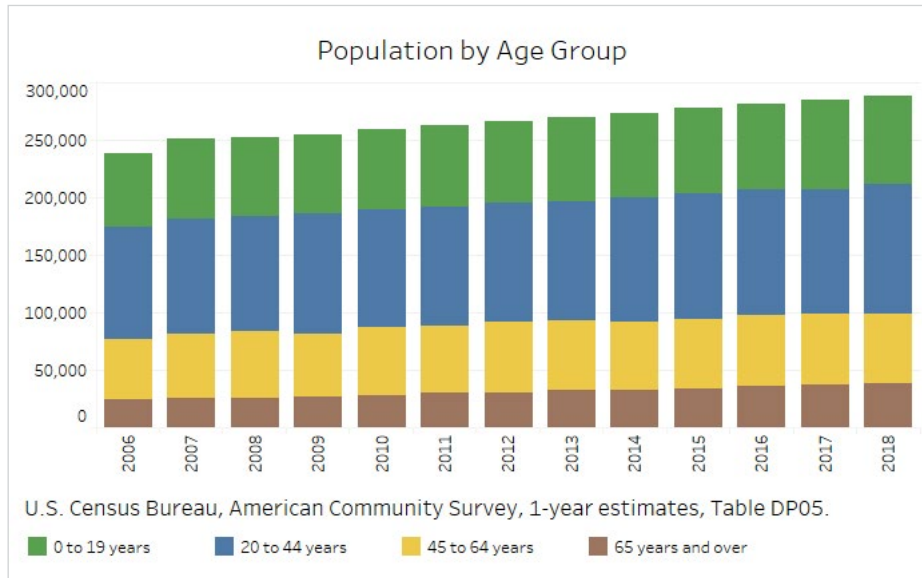


Figure 3

- The 65 years and over age group has added more persons than any other age group in the past decade, with 11,156 more persons, since 2009.

Population Growth by Age Group

Lincoln's 65+ age group is growing at a faster rate than other age groups

	2009 Population	2018 Population	Percent Growth	Population Growth
0 to 19 years	68,608	75,789	10.5%	7,181
20 to 44 years	103,773	112,517	8.4%	8,744
45 to 64 years	54,919	61,229	11.5%	6,310
65 years and over	26,708	37,864	41.8%	11,156

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table DP05.

Table 1

- Since 2009, the 65 years and over age group has shown the fastest rate of growth compared to other age groups (42% growth vs. around 10% growth for other age groups).

Birth & Death Rates

Lincoln's natural growth rate is higher than the U.S. overall

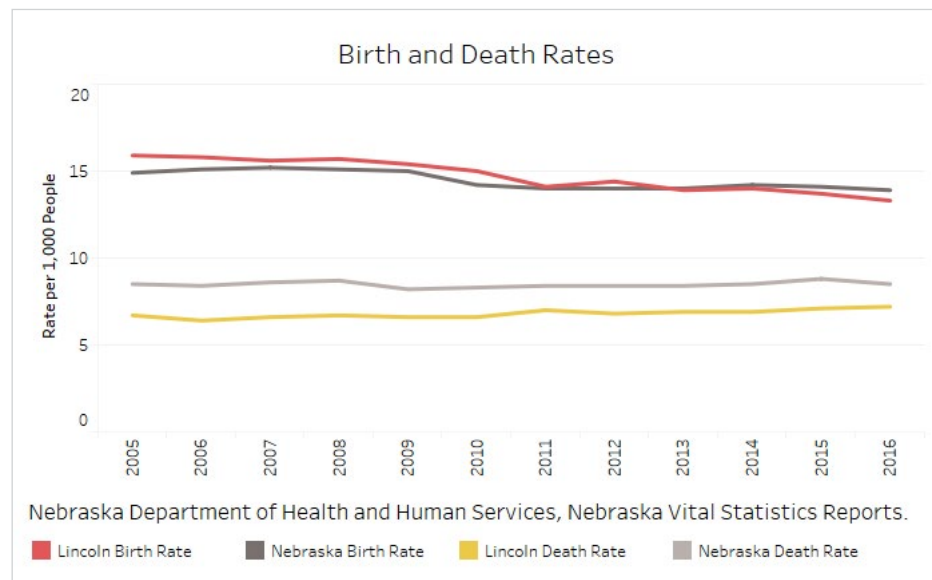


Figure 4

- Lincoln's natural growth rate (birth rate minus death rate) added less than 1% to Lincoln's population in 2016 (the most recent year available).
- Lincoln has a higher growth rate than the U.S. as a whole.
 - Lincoln rate is 6.1 per 1,000 persons.
 - U.S. rate is 3.7 per 1,000 persons.

Lincoln Newcomers

Lincoln's growth is attributable to people moving to Lincoln

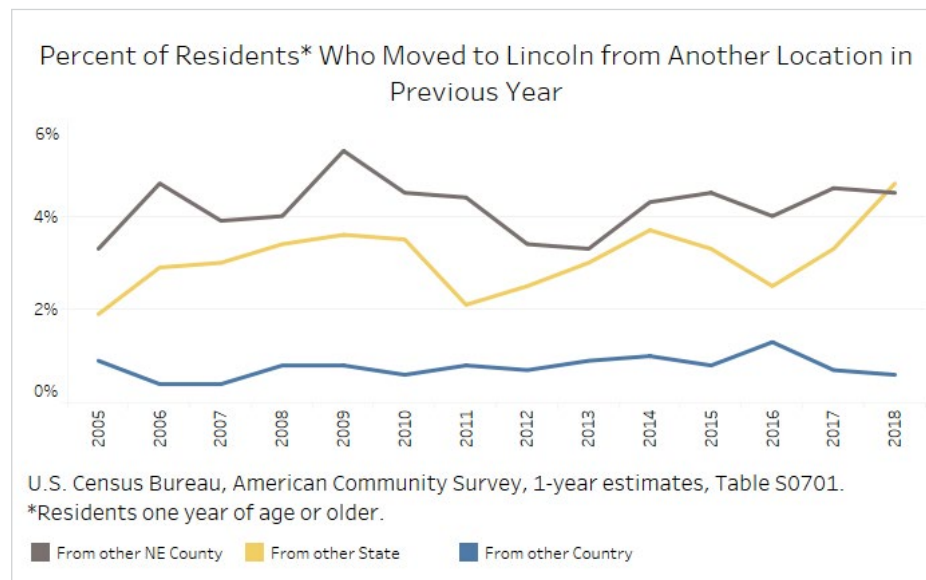


Figure 5

Over the last decade, on average, almost 10% of Lincoln's population moved to the city in the previous 12 months. In 2018, newcomers to Lincoln had moved from:

- Other places in Nebraska (4.5%)
- Other places in the United States outside Nebraska (4.7%)
- Other places in the world outside the United States (0.6%)

Newcomer Demographics

Lincoln newcomers are young, White adults with higher rates of poverty

	Number of Newcomers	Percent of Newcomers
1 to 17 years	2,813	12.9%
18 to 24 years	9,721	44.5%
25 to 44 years	5,845	26.7%
45 to 64 years	2,345	10.7%
65 and over	979	4.5%
Total	21,703	100.0%

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-year estimates, Table S0701. Residents one year of age or older.

Table 2

For the past five years, on average, almost half (44%) of newcomers to Lincoln have been young adults between 18 and 24 years of age.

- The influx of young people may be attributable to Lincoln’s multiple post-secondary institutions.
- Approximately 70% of newcomers to Lincoln were White non-Hispanic/Latinx.
- The proportion of White non-Hispanic/Latinx newcomers has remained steady since 2011.

Newcomers to Lincoln have twice the percentage of people living below the poverty threshold (28%) than those who have lived in Lincoln longer than one year (13%).¹

Newcomer Educational Attainment

Newcomers are as educated as the rest of Lincoln’s population

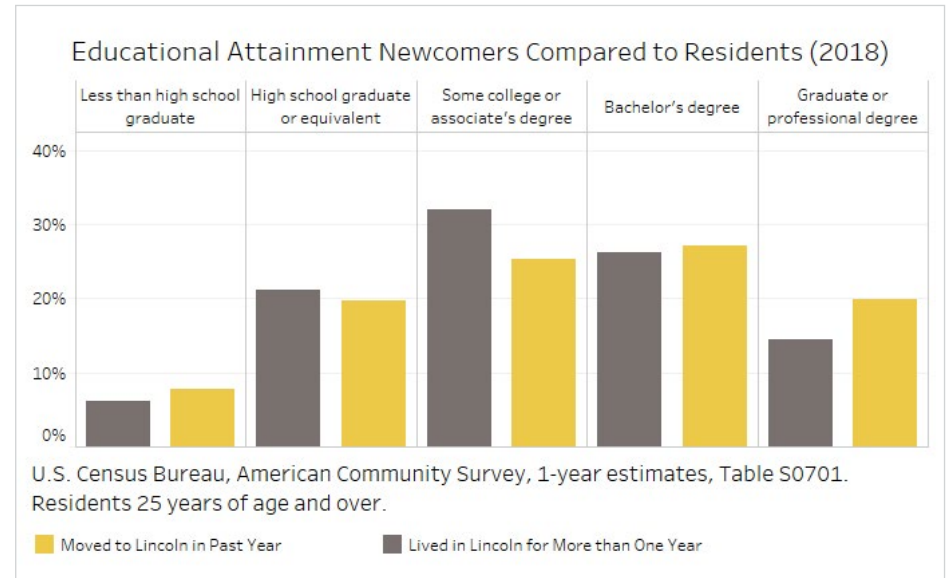


Figure 6

- The educational attainment of newcomers to Lincoln in 2018 is similar to the rest of Lincoln’s population.

Race/Ethnicity

Lincoln is becoming more diverse

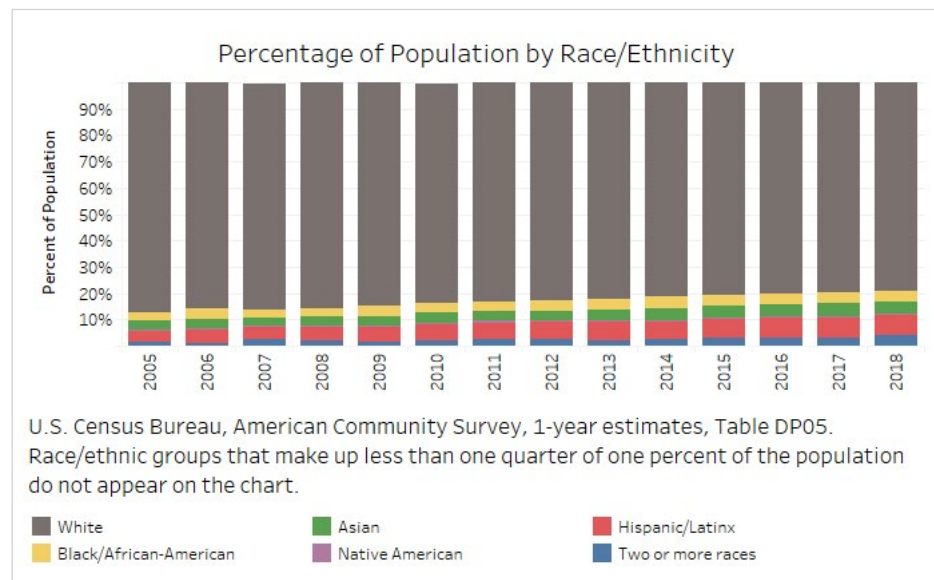


Figure 7

- The majority (79%) of Lincoln’s population identifies as White non-Hispanic/Latinx.
- The past decade has seen Lincoln steadily becoming a more ethnically and racially diverse community.
 - From 2009 to 2018, Lincoln’s non-White population has increased 56% while the White-alone population has increased 5%.
 - Lincoln’s Hispanic/Latinx population has more than doubled (from 13,729 persons to 22,339 persons).

Race/Ethnicity by Age

Lincoln’s children/youth are more ethnically/racially diverse than the adult population

	Younger than 18 Years	18 Years or Older
White	70.2%	83.6%
Hispanic/Latinx	12.4%	5.8%
Black/African-American	5.9%	4.0%
Asian	4.6%	4.7%
Native American	0.6%	0.6%
Two or More Races	8.3%	1.8%

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-year estimates, Table B01001 series. Hispanic/Latinx category has some overlap with other categories. Groups that make up less than one quarter of one percent of the population do not appear in the table.

Table 3

Lincoln’s child/youth age group (younger than 18 years of age) is more diverse than the adult population (18 years or older).

- Within the age group younger than 18 years of age, the White-alone population comprised about two-thirds of the population in 2017 (70%).
- In contrast, within the age group 18 years or older, the White-alone population comprised more than four-fifths of the population (84%).

Well-Being Rankings

Lincoln ranks in the top third of cities in the U.S. for well-being

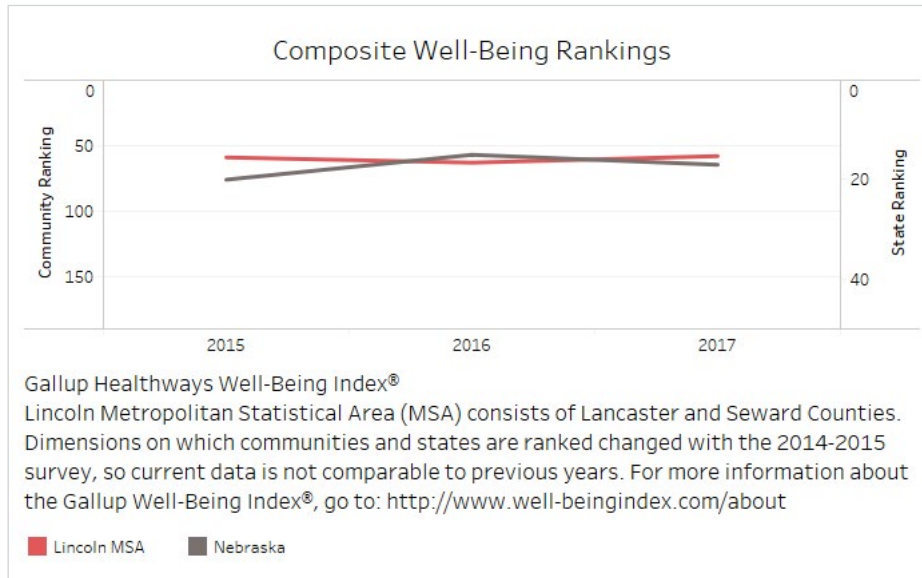


Figure 8

The Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index® is based on phone surveys of people living in more than 180 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs).

- Of the MSAs whose residents were surveyed as part of the 2016-17 Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index®, the Lincoln MSA (consisting of Lancaster and Seward counties) was ranked 58th in overall well-being.
- In the past three years, Lincoln's rankings have been similar to Nebraska's when adjusted for the number of places used in the comparison (50 for states, 186 for communities in 2017).

Well-Being Components

Lincoln ranks in the top 15% of cities for financial well-being, and in the top 25% of cities for community well-being

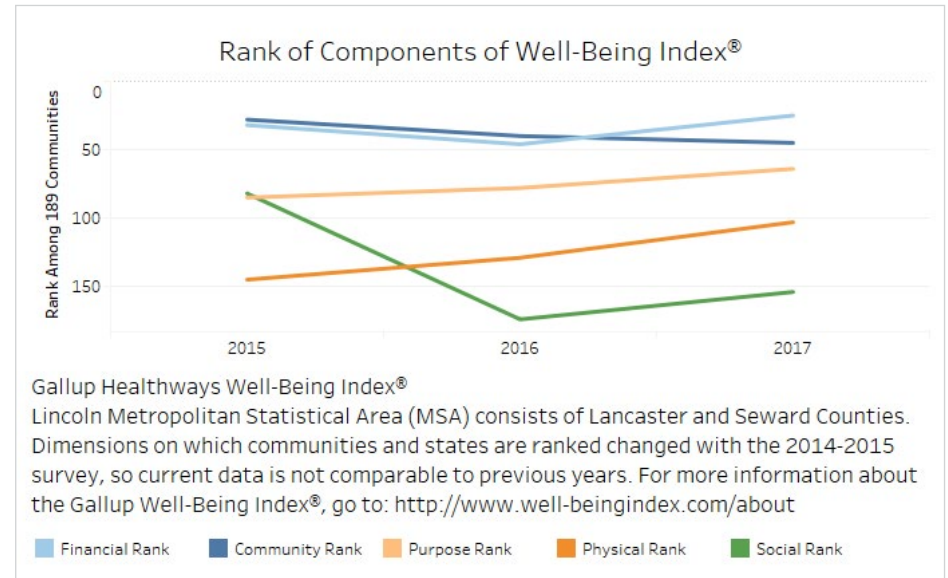


Figure 9

Beginning with the 2014-15 survey, well-being dimensions include: purpose, social, financial, community, and physical.²

- Lincoln ranks well on the financial well-being (rank = 25) and community well-being (rank = 45).
- Lincoln falls just outside of the top third of rankings on purpose well-being (rank = 64).
- Lincoln has previously ranked poorly on physical well-being (rank = 103), but is improving.
- Lincoln has ranked poorly on the social well-being (rank = 154) over the past two years.

Community Profile Notes

1. In 2018, the poverty threshold was \$25,465 for a family of four that included two related children less than 18 years of age.
2. The specific dimensions on which communities and states are ranked changed with the 2014-15 survey. There are no community-level data for Lincoln in 2014. For more information about the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index®, go to <http://www.well-beingindex.com/about>



Economy and Workforce

Lincoln has an active and educated workforce: **high rates of workforce participation, low unemployment**, over half of **adults with post-secondary degrees**, and **high marks for quality** from local businesses. However, most Lincoln households have **not regained pre-Great Recession incomes**, even when adjusting for inflation, though Lincoln's most affluent households are thriving. **Declining or stagnant measures for entrepreneurship and STEM** jobs signal signs of weakness in Lincoln's economy. The **high percentage of children with all parents in the workforce** signals the need for high quality childcare, but costs may consume a significant proportion of a household income.

Unemployment

Lincoln's unemployment rate continues to be low

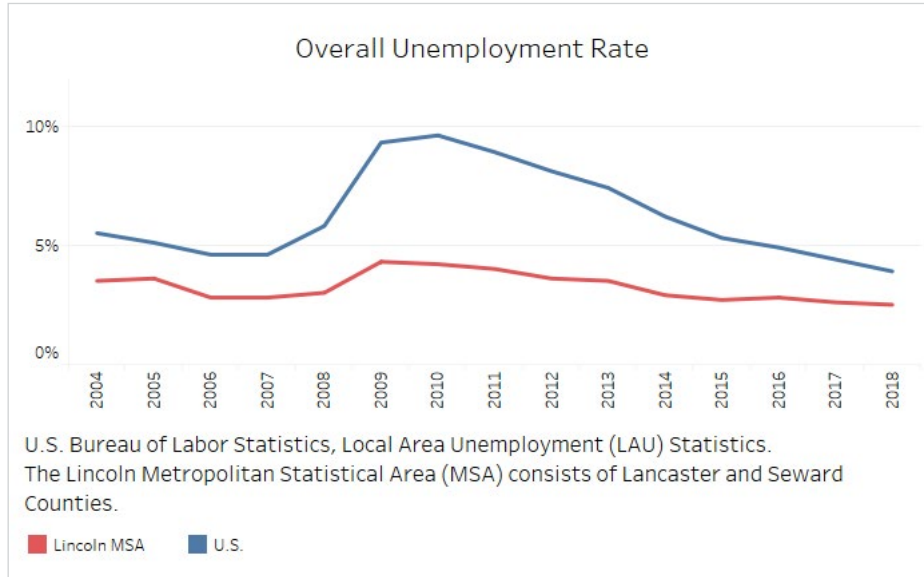


Figure 10

- Lincoln's unemployment rate continues to be lower than the U.S. rate.
- Lincoln's current unemployment rate is the lowest it has been in 15 years.

Multiple Jobholders

Nebraska has a high rate of multiple jobholders

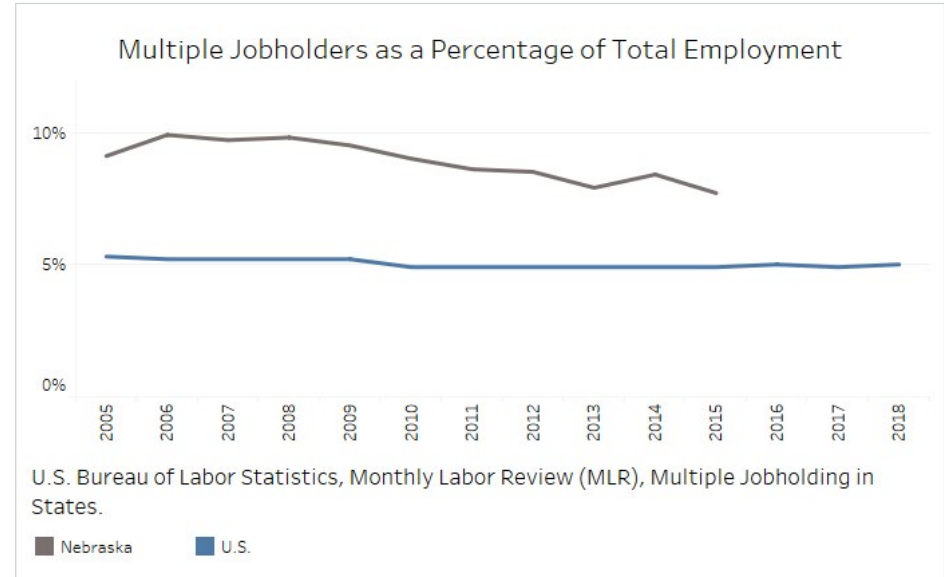


Figure 11

- The most recent multiple jobholder data for Nebraska is 2016. Statewide data are the smallest geographic data available.
- The rate of multiple jobholders in Nebraska has averaged nearly 9% over the past decade, and has been significantly higher than the national average of 5% since 2009.
 - The rate of multiple jobholders in Nebraska peaked in 2006 at 9.9%, decreasing to 8.9% in 2016.

Workforce Participation

Workforce participation in Lincoln is high

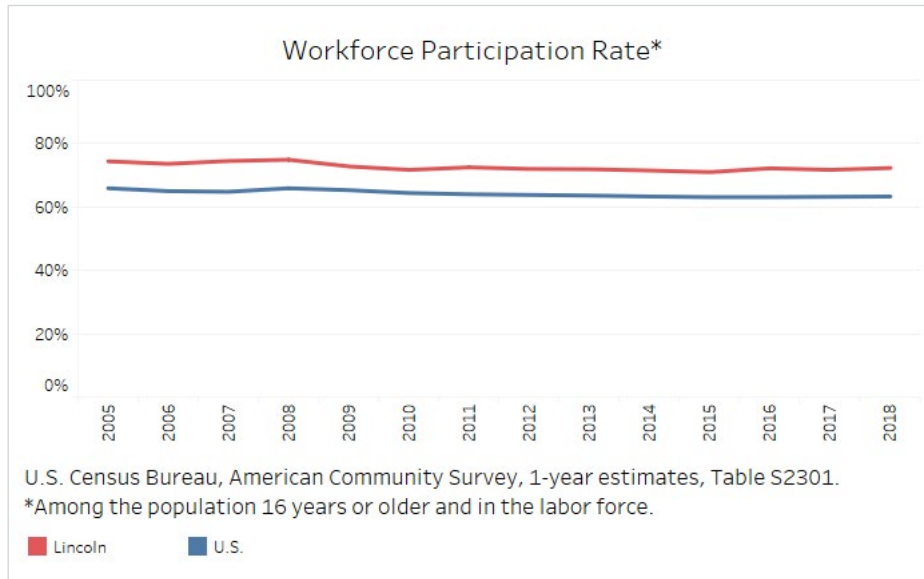


Figure 12

- In Lincoln, a higher percentage of persons over the age of 16 participate in the workforce than is the average nationally, exceeding the national rate by at least 7% over the past decade.
- In 2018, Lincoln’s workforce participation was 72%, while the national rate was 63%.

Parents in Workforce

Most parents work

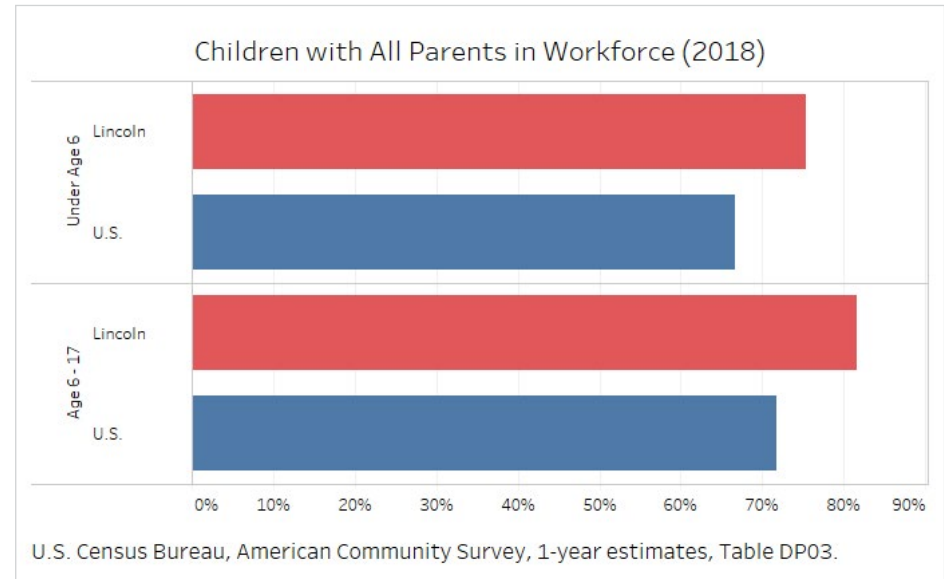


Figure 13

- In Lincoln, 75% of children under 6 years of age have all parents in the workforce; for children from 6 through 17 years of age, the percentage is nearly 82%.
 - All parents in the workforce is defined as two-parent families, both of whom work, and one-parent families with that parent working.
- Lincoln has a much higher percentage of families with all parents in the workforce than the national average.
- Nebraska, along with other upper Great Plains states, regularly ranks as one of the top states for percentage of children with all parents in the workforce.

Workforce Participation by Race/Ethnicity

Those identifying as Hispanic/Latinx and Black/African American have the highest workforce participation rates

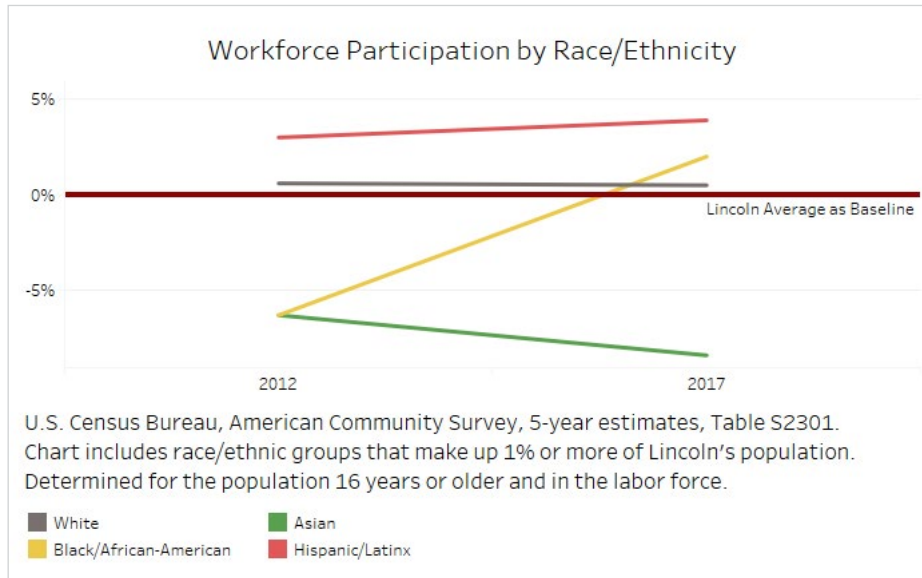


Figure 14

The workforce participation rate is the percentage of people in the working age population (those 16 years or older) who are either employed or actively seeking employment.

- Workforce participation rates vary by race and ethnicity.
- Hispanics/Latinx have the highest workforce participation rates, followed by Blacks/African Americans.

Unemployment by Race/Ethnicity

Those identifying as Blacks/African-American and Hispanic/Latinx have the highest rates of unemployment

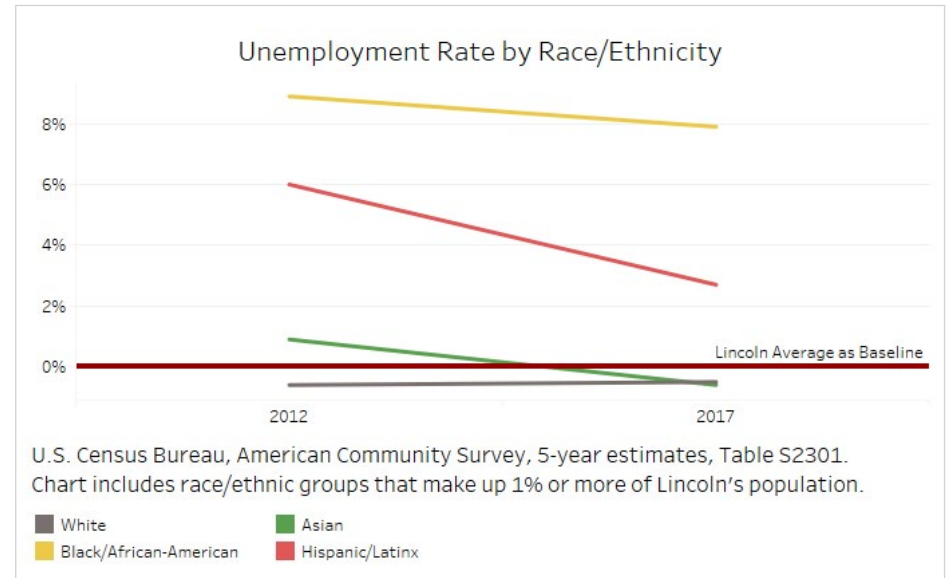


Figure 15

The unemployment rate is the percentage of people in the workforce who are not employed, and are actively seeking employment.

- Unemployment rates vary by race and ethnicity.
- Blacks/African-Americans have a rate of unemployment that is three times that of Lincoln as a whole.

Childcare Costs

Childcare costs continue to increase

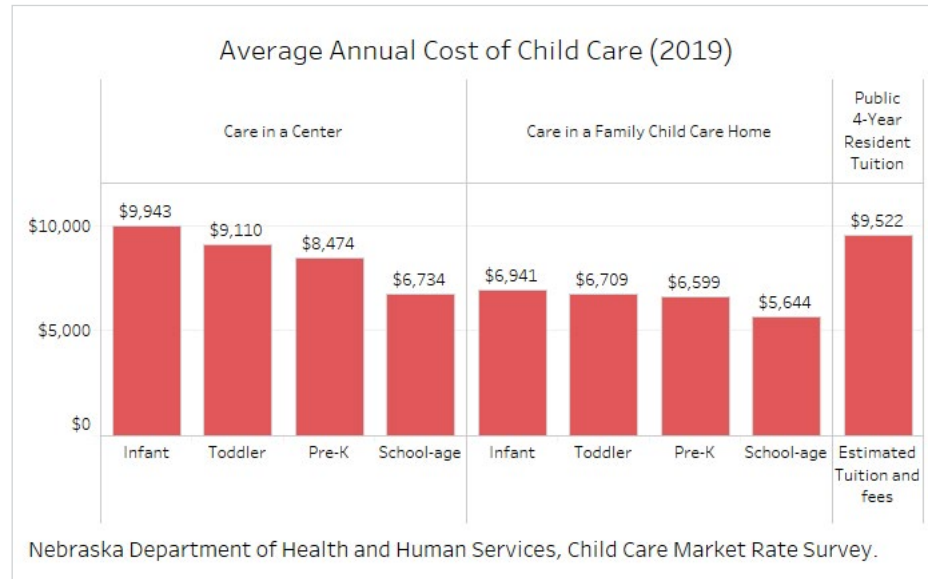


Figure 16

The cost of childcare is often a significant proportion of working parents' income and, in some cases, may be a barrier to participation in the workforce.

- In 2019, the annual cost of care for an infant in a childcare center was more than resident tuition and fees at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Childcare Infant Cost

Childcare costs are a significant percentage of income for families

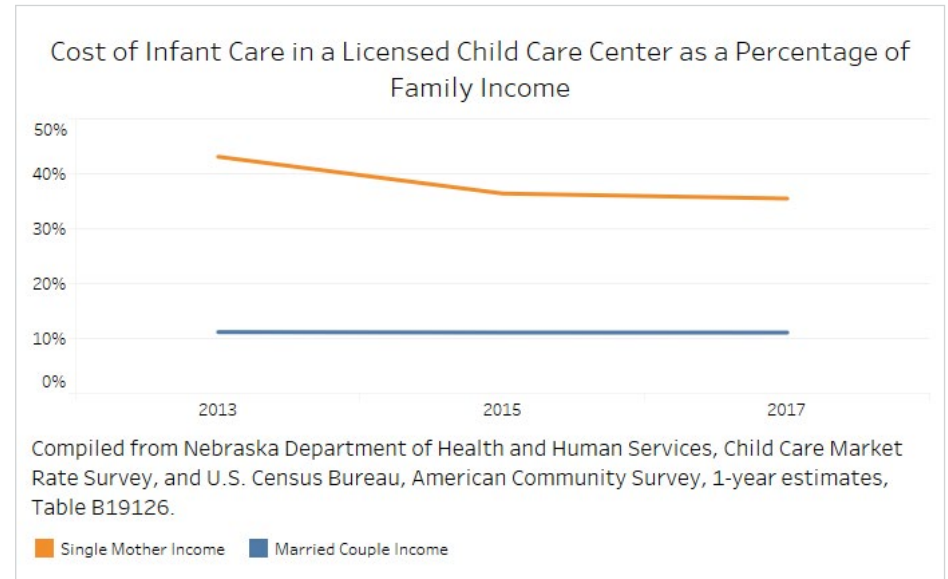


Figure 17

In 2017, the annual cost of childcare for an infant was:

- 11% of the median family income of a typical married couple.
- 35% of the median income of a typical single mother.

Childcare workers have low wages. In 2018, the average annual income of a childcare worker in Lincoln was \$23,880.¹

Cost of Living

Lincoln's living costs are lower than in the U.S. as a whole, as is per capita income

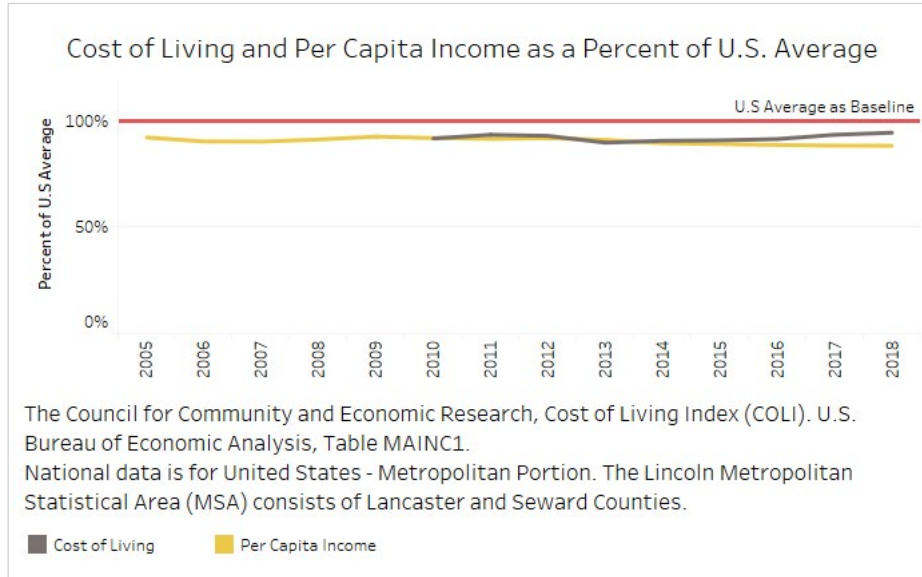


Figure 18

- Living in Lincoln costs less, on average, than does living in other parts of the United States.
- Lincoln's per capita income is less, on average, than the U.S. as a whole.
- Over the past five years, Lincoln's per capita income has stayed about the same as cost of living has risen.

Per Capita Income

Lincoln's low cost of living does not fully compensate for workers' lower per capita incomes

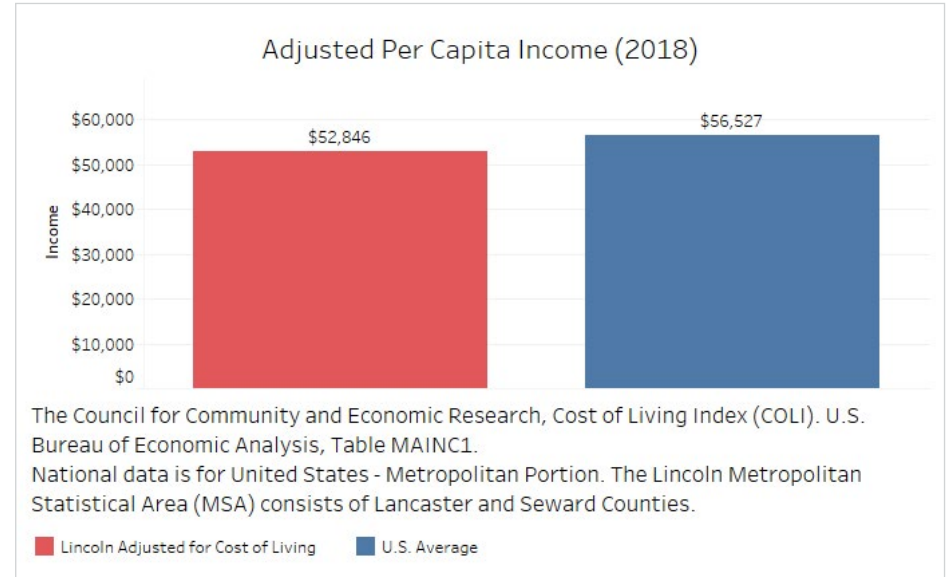


Figure 19

Adjusting per capita income by cost of living provides an indicator of relative buying power and recognizes that a dollar of income in Lincoln has more buying power than a dollar of income in other areas of the U.S.

- Since 2011, adjusting for Lincoln's low cost of living has not made up for Lincoln's low per capita income.
- In 2018, Lincoln trailed the national average per capita income by \$3,682.

Household Income

Most Lincoln household incomes have not regained pre-Great Recession levels

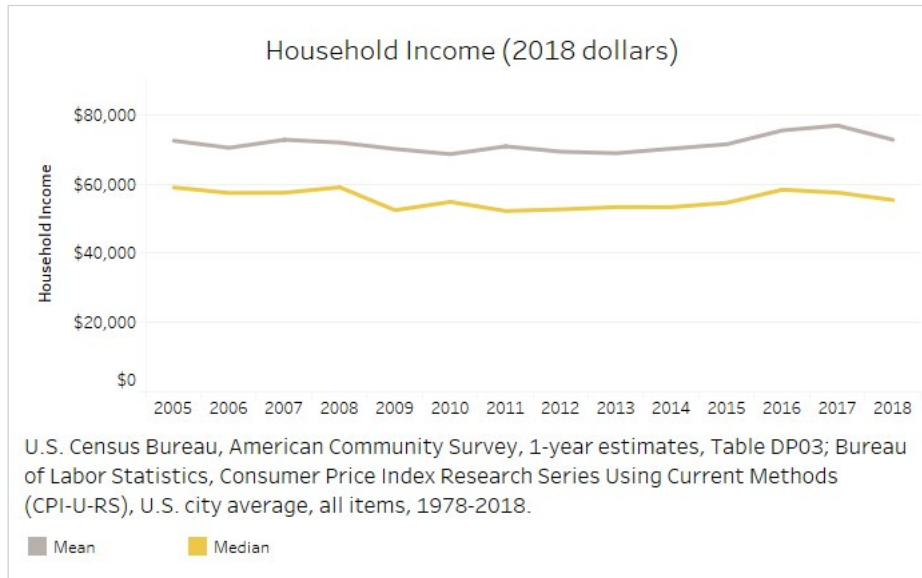


Figure 20

Most demographers use *median* income as the preferred measure of average household income, rather than the *mean*. This is because very high incomes skew the mean, inflating what the income is for most households.

- Lincoln’s median household income, even when adjusted to 2018 dollars, has not recovered from 2008 and the Great Recession.
- Lincoln’s mean household income, when adjusted to 2018 dollars, now exceeds that from pre-2008.

Median vs. Mean Household Income

The gap between low income and high income earners has been steady over the past decade

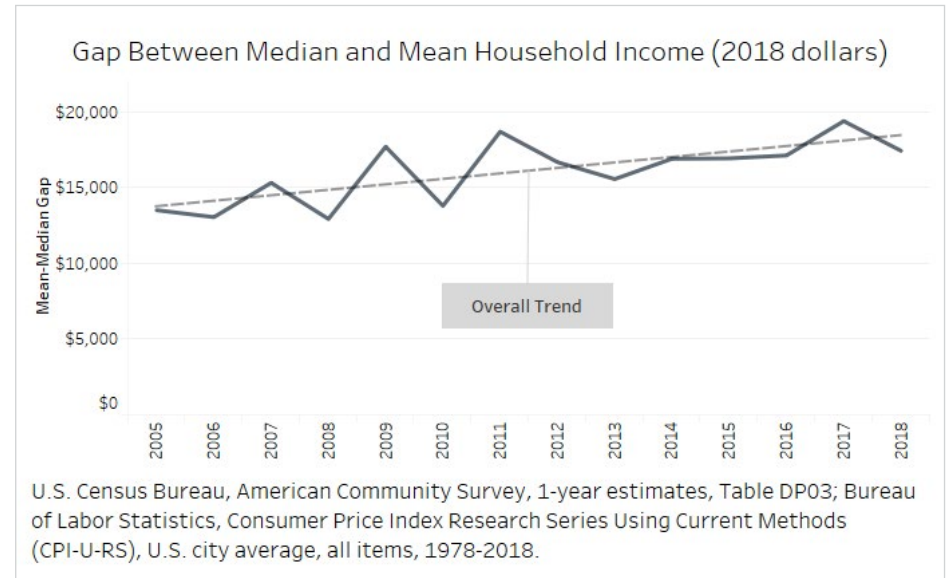


Figure 21

- The gap between the mean and the median income has hovered around 25%–36% of the median income.

Workforce Status & Poverty

Most persons who fall below the poverty threshold are in the workforce

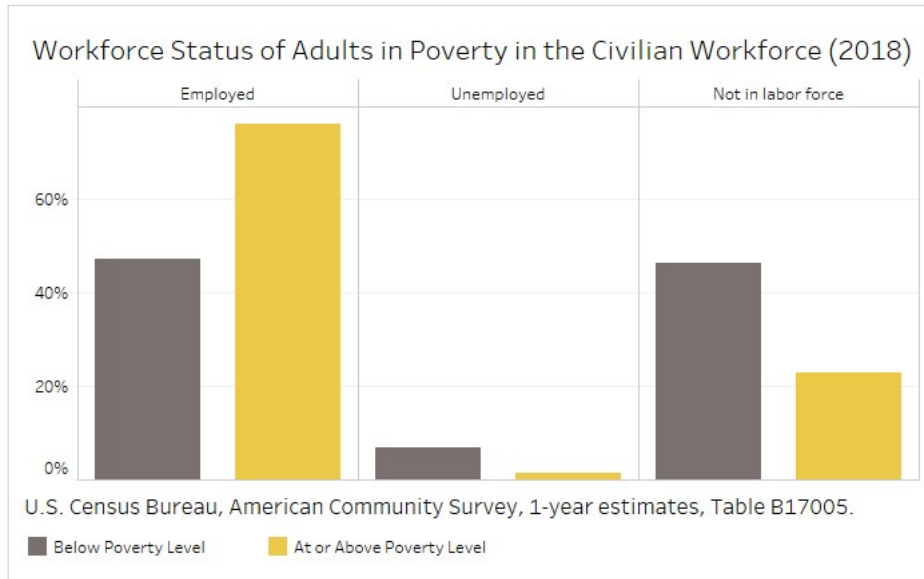


Figure 22

- The majority (54%) of adults in poverty are in the workforce.

Employment Status & Poverty

Most adults in poverty in the workforce are employed

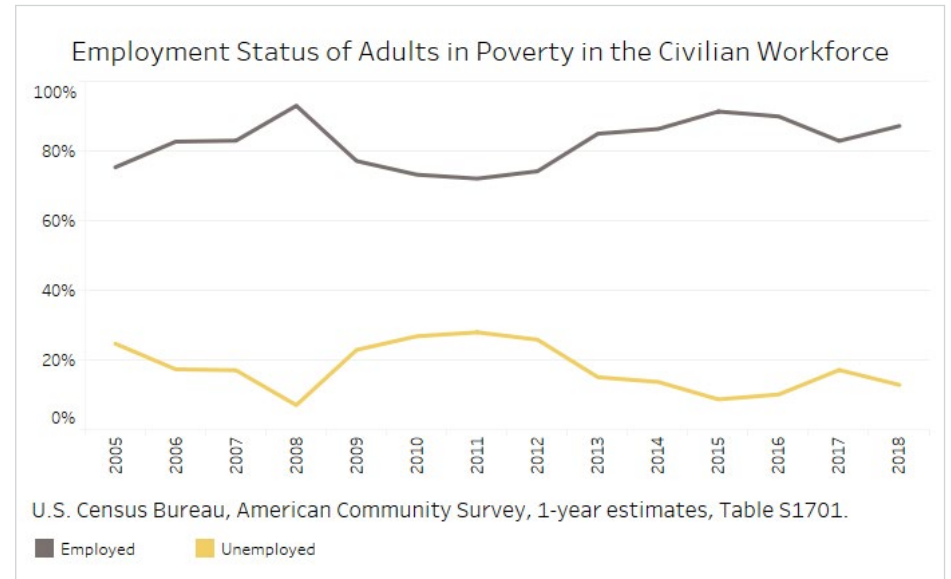


Figure 23

- The vast majority (87%) of persons in poverty in the workforce are employed.

Work Type & Poverty

Most adults in poverty worked part-time or part-year

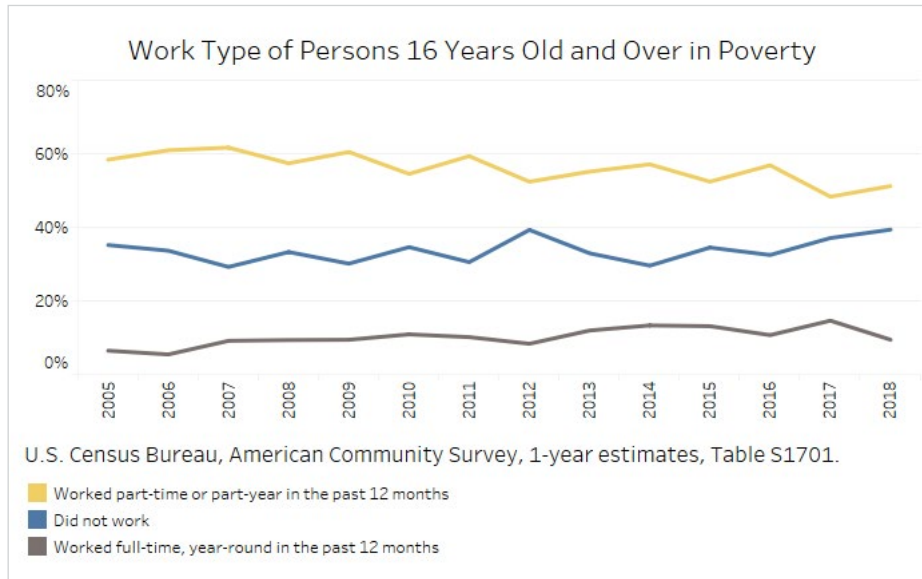


Figure 24

- Over half (51%) of adults in poverty worked part-time or part-year, suggesting that underemployment, job losses, or barriers to employment contribute to poverty.
- Only 9% of adults in poverty worked full-time, year-round.

Mean Hours & Poverty

Mean hours worked and poverty rates have not returned to pre-Great Recession levels

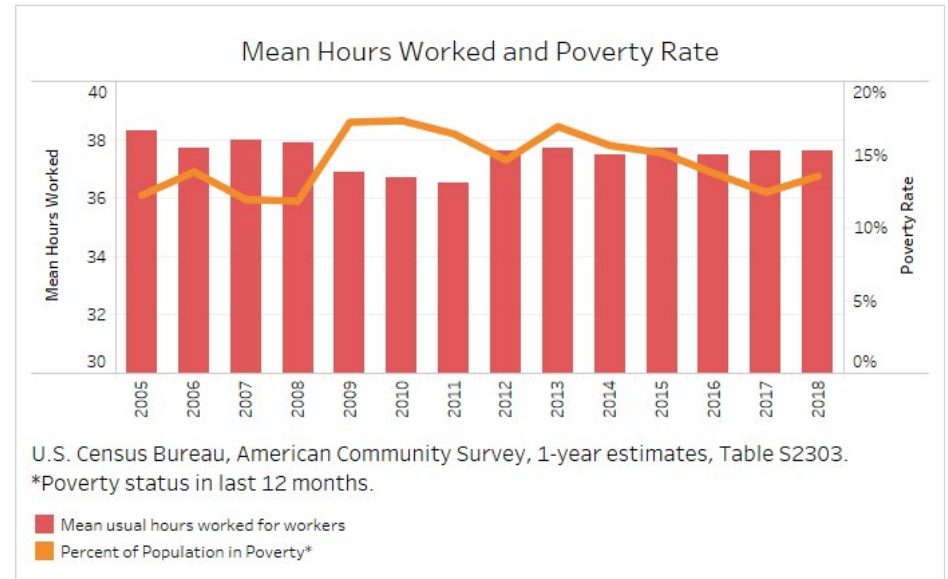


Figure 25

- Average number of hours worked has not regained pre-Great Recession highs.
- The rate of poverty exceeds pre-Great Recession lows.
- Average hours worked and poverty rate are negatively correlated, meaning that when mean hours worked is lower, poverty is higher.

Educational Attainment

Lincoln is becoming an even more highly educated population

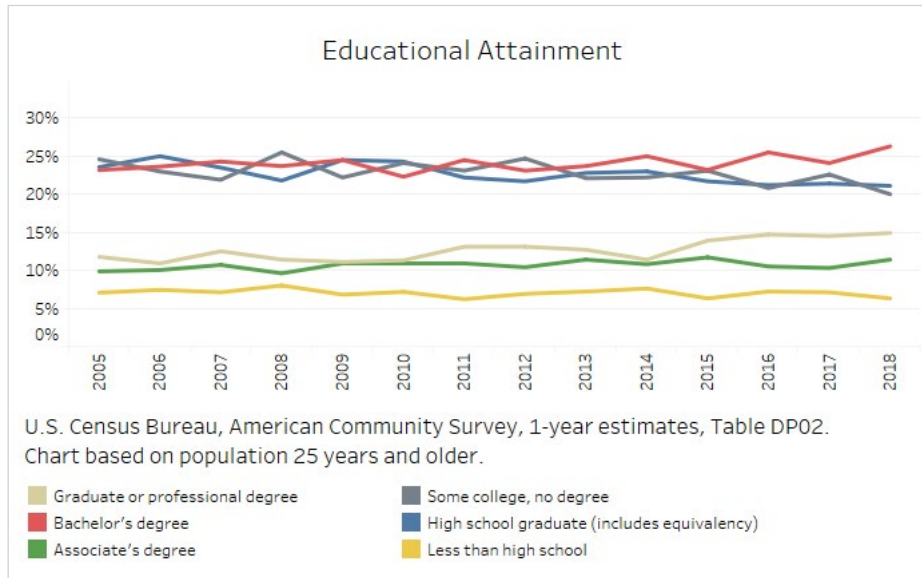


Figure 26

- Over half of adults in Lincoln (53%) have a post-secondary degree (an increase of 13% from 2009).
 - 11% have an associate's degree
 - 26% have a bachelor's degree
 - 15% have a graduate or professional degree

High School Diploma

Lincoln has a high percentage of adults with a high school diploma or higher

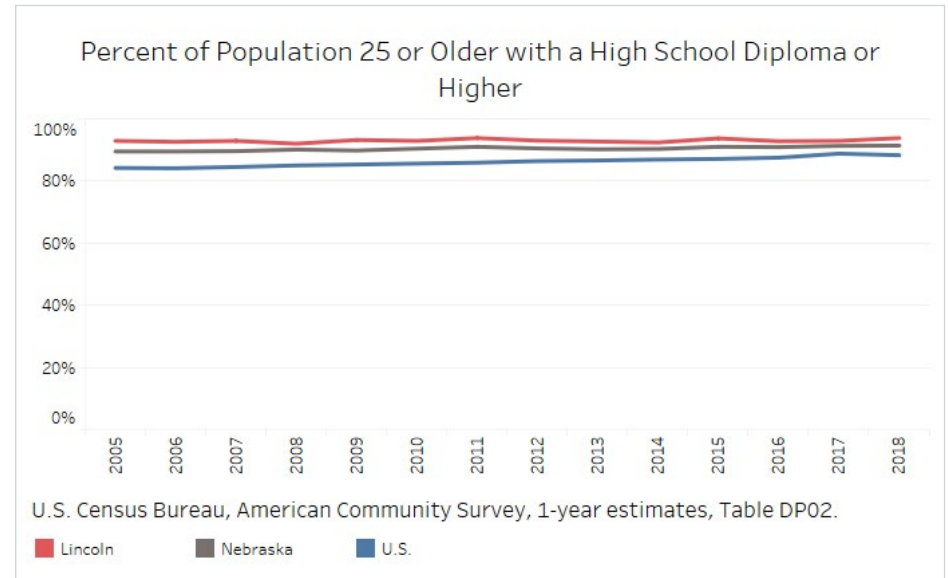


Figure 27

- Lincoln has a higher percentage of adults with a high school diploma or higher (93.8%) than does Nebraska (91.4%) or the U.S. (88.3%).
- Lincoln's percentage of adults who have a high school diploma or higher has been steady over the past 14 years.

Graduate/Professional Degree

Lincoln has a high percentage of adults with a graduate or professional degree

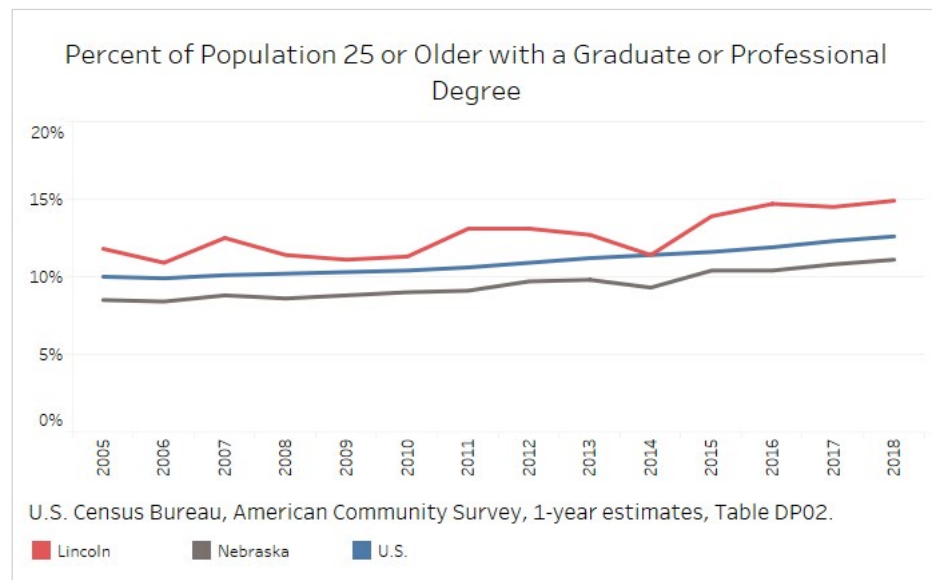


Figure 28

- Lincoln has a higher percentage of adults with a graduate or professional degree (15%) than Nebraska (11%) or the U.S. (12%).

Unemployment Rate by Education

Unemployment is low across the educational attainment spectrum

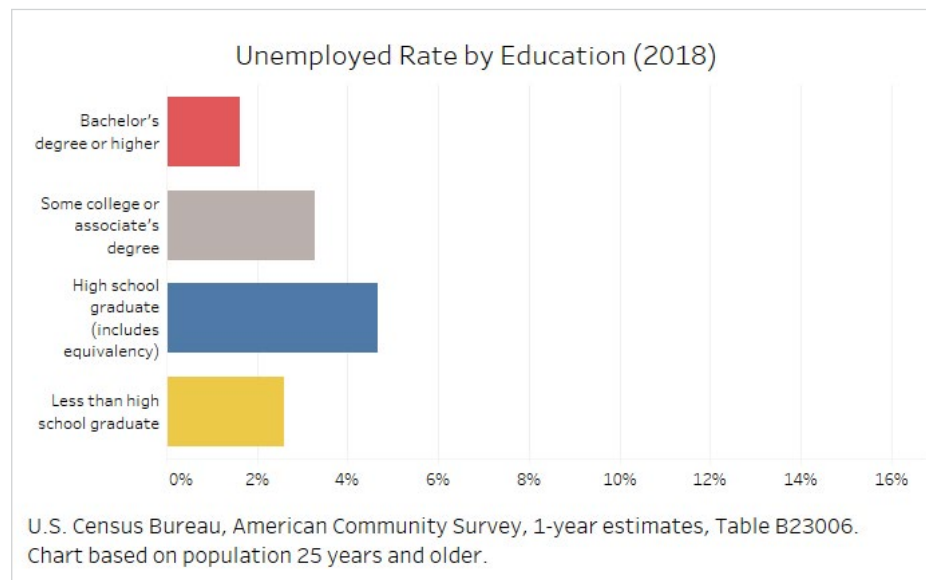


Figure 29

- Persons with bachelor's degrees or higher have the lowest unemployment rate among educational attainment categories.
- It is notable, that in 2018, persons who are high school graduates have a higher unemployment rate than those with less than a high school diploma.

Median Earnings by Education

Adults with higher education earn more income

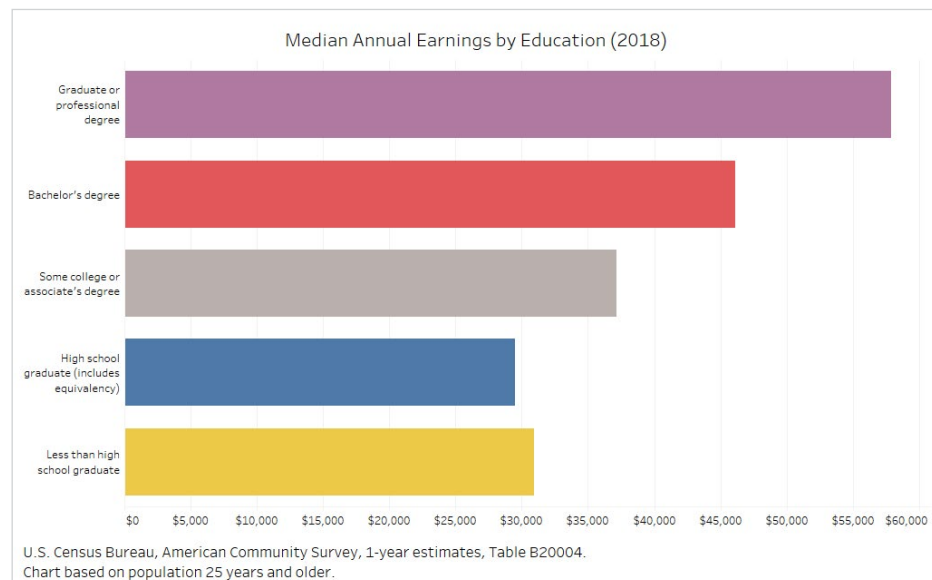


Figure 30

- In general, adults with higher educational attainment have higher earnings.
- It is notable that, in 2018, persons with less than a high school diploma had higher earnings than those with only a high school diploma.

Projected Employment Growth

Nationally, jobs requiring a master's degree are growing in demand from 2018-2028

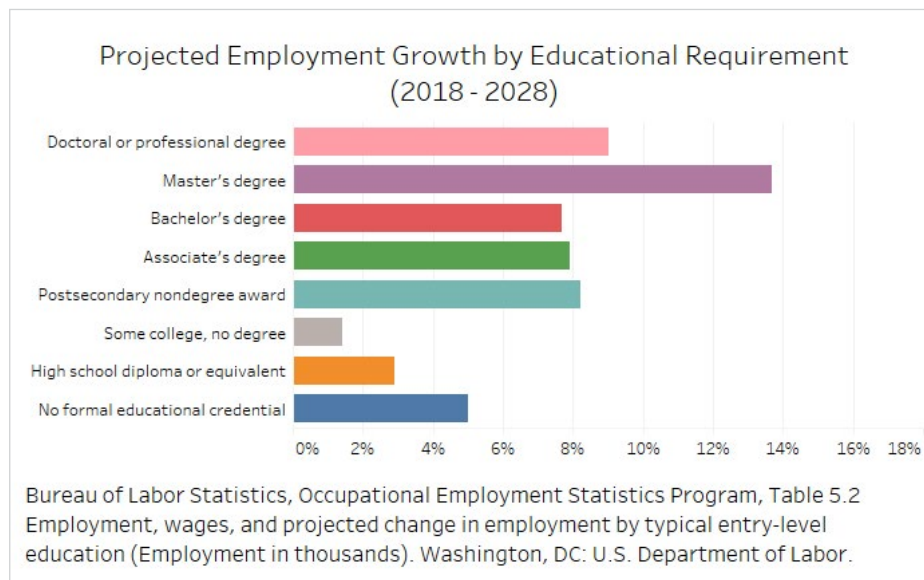


Figure 31

- It is difficult to know exactly what skills Lincoln residents will need to meet the demands of the future.
- Nationally, jobs requiring a master's degree are expected to grow the fastest.

Quality of Workforce

Employers give Lincoln's workforce high ratings

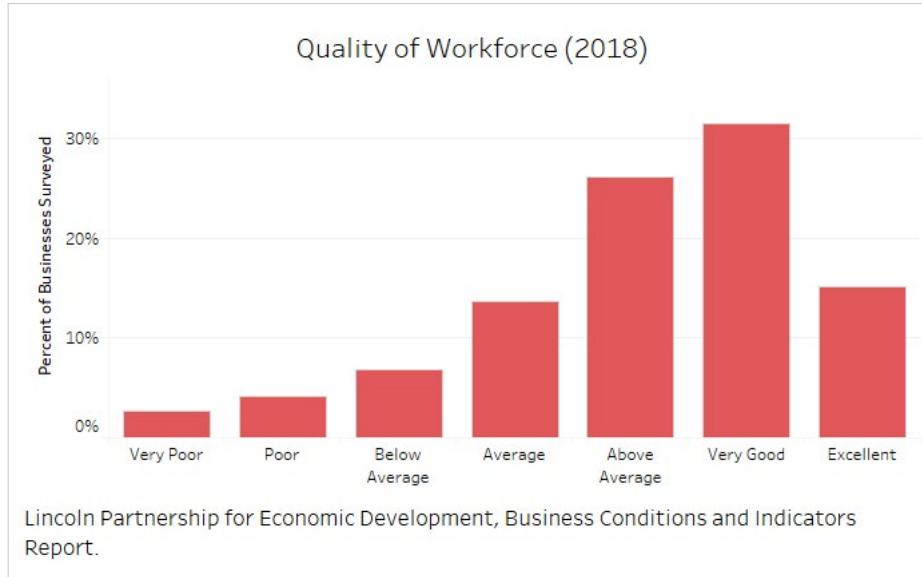


Figure 32

- Lincoln's workforce receives high ratings for quality from local area businesses.
- The majority of businesses (73%) rated the quality of Lincoln's workforce as *Above Average* or higher.

Availability of Skilled Workforce

Employers give the availability of skilled workers low ratings

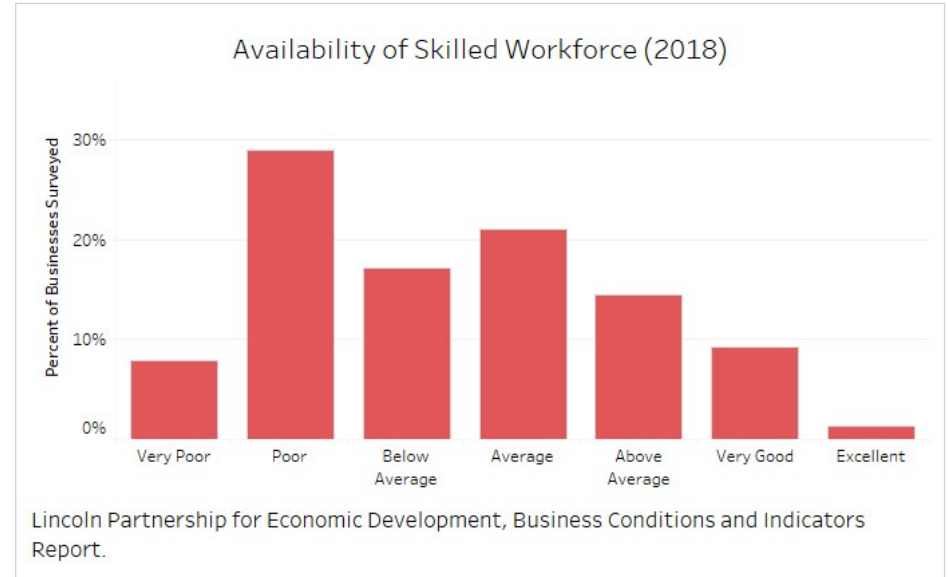


Figure 33

- Lincoln businesses report some difficulty finding qualified applicants to fill the jobs they have available.
- The majority of businesses (54%) rated the availability of skilled workforce as *Below Average* or lower.

Employment by Sector

Most persons work in private companies

	Number Employed	Percent Employed
Private wage and salary workers	122,529	76.2%
Government workers	28,546	17.8%
Self-employed in own (not incorporated) business workers	9,692	6.0%

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, Table DP03.

Table 4

- In Lincoln in 2018, civilian workers were employed by the following type of employer:
 - 76% were private wage and salary workers
 - 18% were federal, state, or local government workers
 - 6% were self-employed in their own (not incorporated) business

Net Job Creation

Net job creation has increased over the past decade

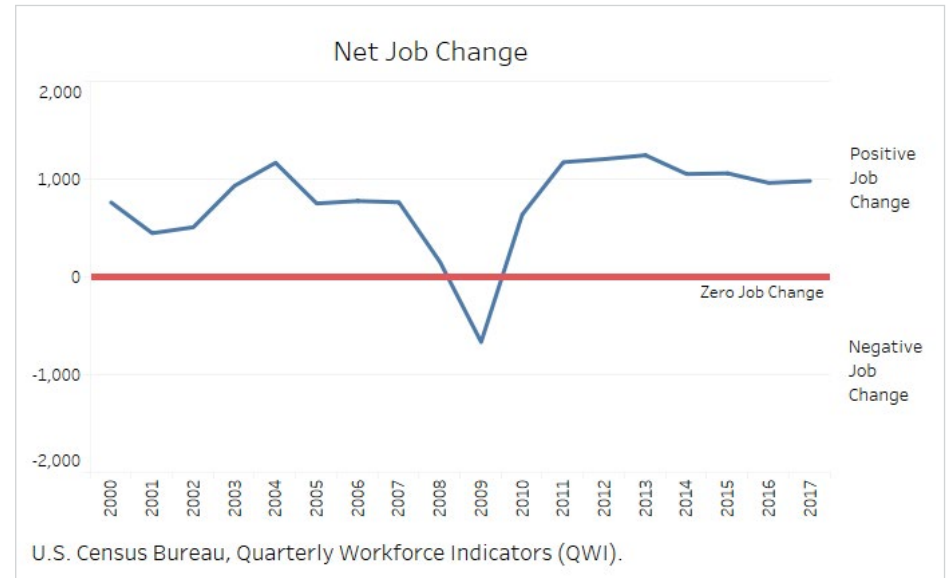


Figure 34

- Net job change was negative in 2009 during the Great Recession, but recovered in the years following.
- Net job change peaked in 2013 and has decreased slightly and stabilized from 2014-2017.

Jobs Created by New Businesses

New businesses (0-5 years old) are creating jobs

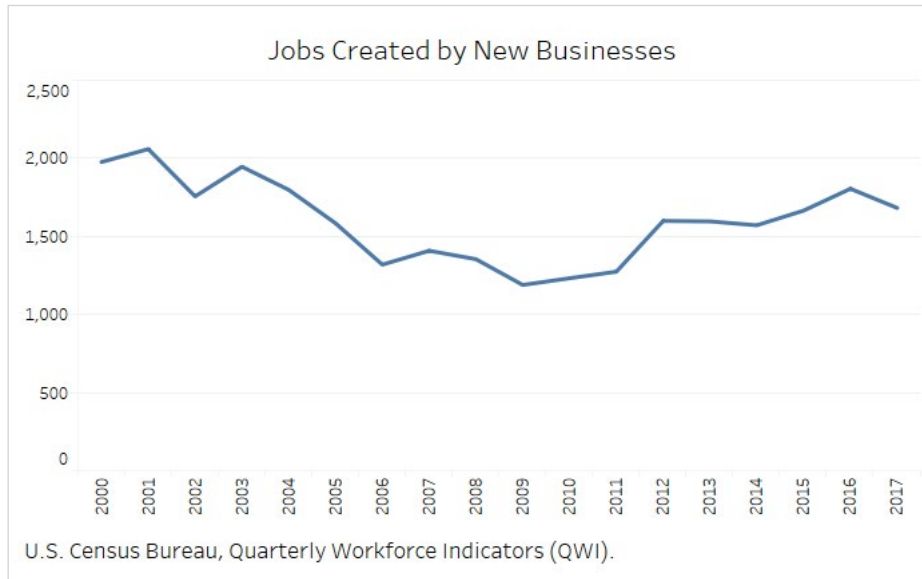


Figure 35

- There has been a 24% increase in the number of jobs created by new businesses (aged 0-5 years) from 2008 to 2017.
- Job creation by new businesses has risen slowly, but steadily, since the Great Recession, with a spike in 2016.

Establishment Entry Rate

The establishment entry rate of new businesses has been mostly level for the past four years

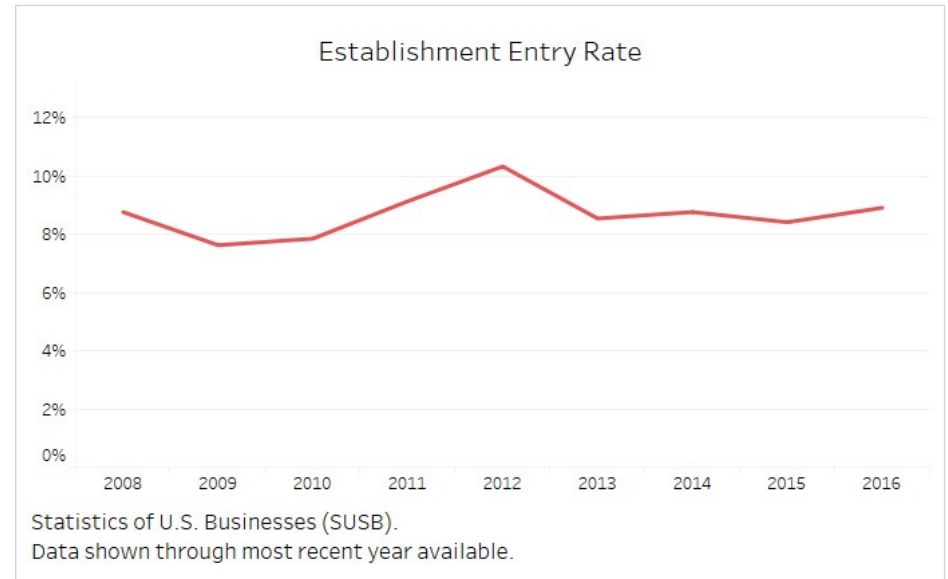


Figure 36

- The establishment of new businesses (as a percentage of existing businesses) is a measure of business growth.
- The establishment business rate dipped during the years following the Great Recession, but recovered and peaked in 2012 (10.3%).
 - The establishment business rate has remained level, with a slight uptick in the most recent year data are available (2016).

Patents

Innovation has been increasing since 2011

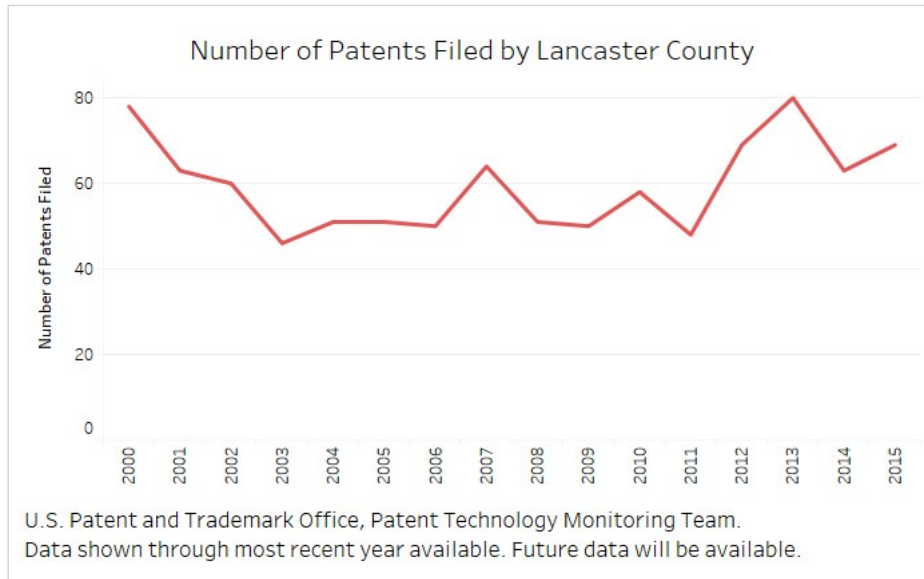


Figure 37

Patent filing is a reasonable proxy for innovation in a community.²

- The first decade of the 21st century was fairly flat, but the number of patents in the last several years has increased.

STEM Occupations

Lincoln's percentage of STEM occupations is rebounding

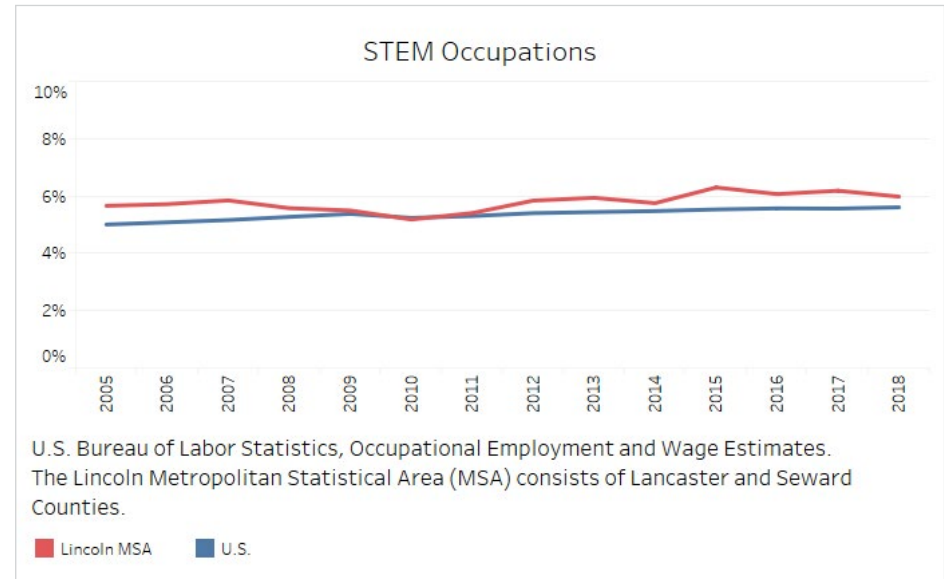


Figure 38

There is a general consensus that the United States' long-term global competitiveness will partially hinge on the supply and quality of workers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields.³ STEM careers are important to communities because they offer high wage jobs that will result in reinvestments back into local economies.⁴

- In the Lincoln Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA: Lancaster and Seward Counties), STEM occupations had decreased during and after the recession, but have rebounded since 2010.
- In Lincoln, 6.0% of all occupations are classified as STEM.
 - This is slightly higher than the national percentage of 5.6% of all occupations in STEM.

Commercial & Residential Construction

Construction has grown in the past decade

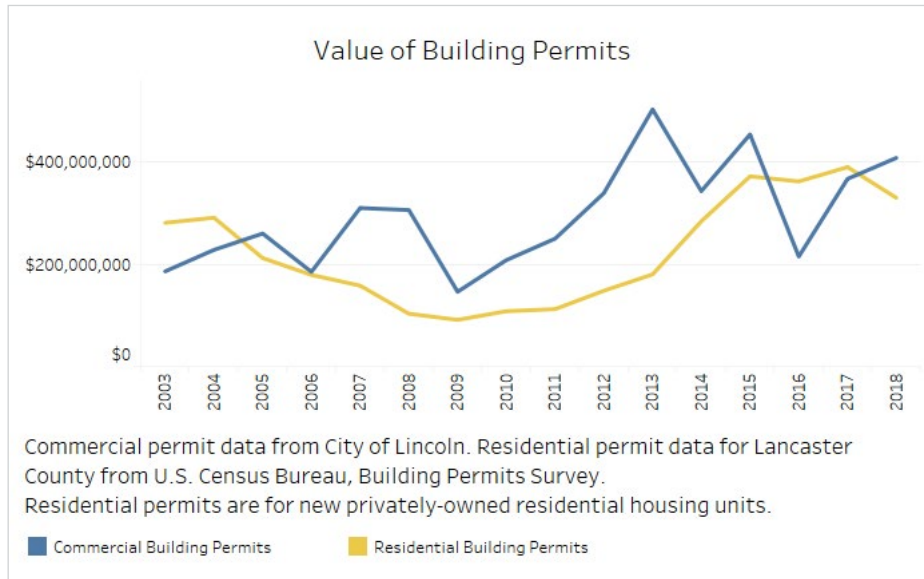


Figure 39

- Lincoln continues to invest in new commercial buildings and residences.
- The value of commercial building and residential permits have been on a general upward trend since 2009.

Economy and Workforce Notes

1. U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates, 2018.
2. Acs, Z. J., Anselin, L., & Varga, A. (2002). Patents and innovation counts as measures of regional production of new knowledge. *Research Policy*, 31, 1069-1085.
3. Committee on Prospering in the Global Economy of the 21st Century. (2007). *Rising above the gathering storm: Energizing and employing America for a brighter economic future*. Washington, DC: National Academies Press.
4. Rothwell, J. (2013). The hidden STEM economy. *Metropolitan Policy Program*. Washington, DC: Brookings Institute.



Basic Needs

Lincoln's poverty rate has dropped to 14%, and roughly tracks the overall poverty trends of the nation. **Over 38% of public school students currently receive free lunch.** The number of households receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP; formerly known as food stamps) has been stable since the Great Recession, averaging 9%. Lincoln has **seven neighborhoods in extreme poverty** (more than 40% of residents in poverty). Other trends have been going in a more positive direction: the **number of homeless in Lincoln has dropped to its lowest levels in the past 10 years**, and rates of food insecure households and individuals without health insurance have gradually decreased.

Poverty Rate

Lincoln's number of persons in poverty has decreased 11% in the past decade

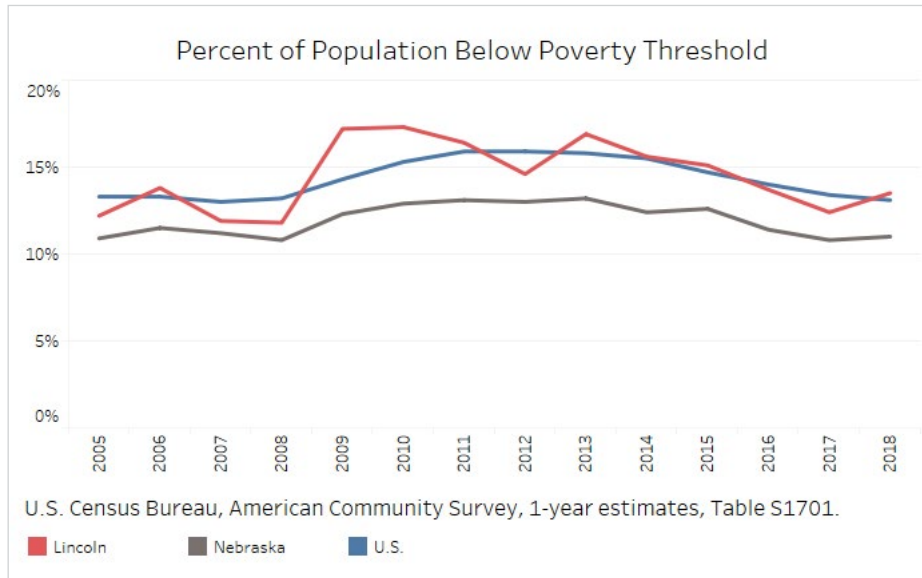


Figure 40

The federal poverty level is determined annually based on size of the family, the number of children, and a measure of income needed to purchase food and other essential goods and services.¹ In 2018, for example, the poverty threshold was \$25,465 for a family of four that included two related children less than 19 years of age.

- In Lincoln in 2018, 14% (37,004 persons) lived in households falling below the poverty threshold.
- Since 2009, there has been an 11% decrease in the number of persons below the poverty threshold. This represents a decrease of 4,624 persons in poverty.
- Since the year 2009, the poverty rate in Lincoln peaked in 2010 with 17% of households falling below the poverty threshold.

Population Change by Poverty Level

Lincoln has experienced an increase in the population in poverty after several years of decreases

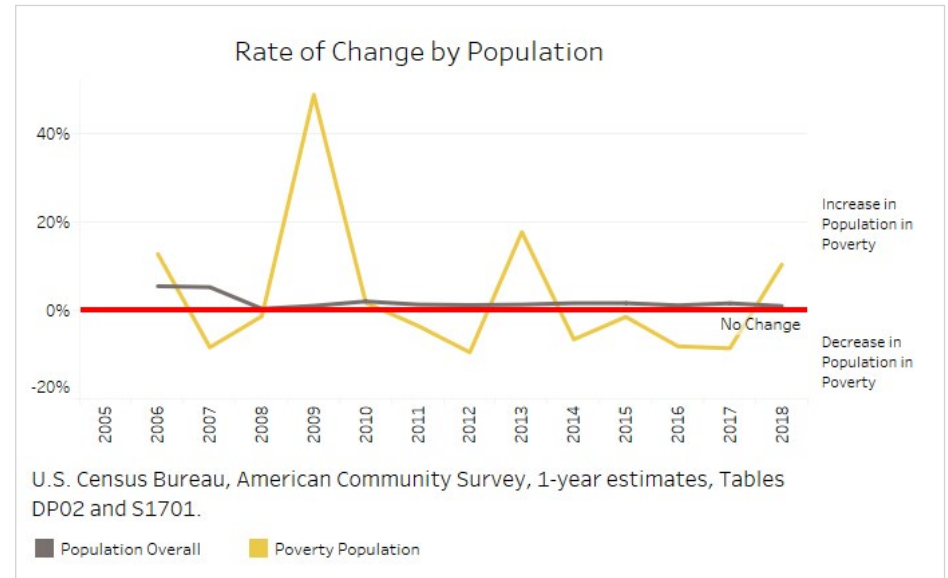


Figure 41

- In 2018, there was an increase in Lincoln's population living in poverty of 10% from the previous year. This increase represented 3,450 more people in poverty since 2017.
- From 2015 to 2017, there were successive decreases in the rate of Lincoln's population living in poverty.

Households in/near Poverty

Approximately 30% of Lincoln's households are in or near poverty

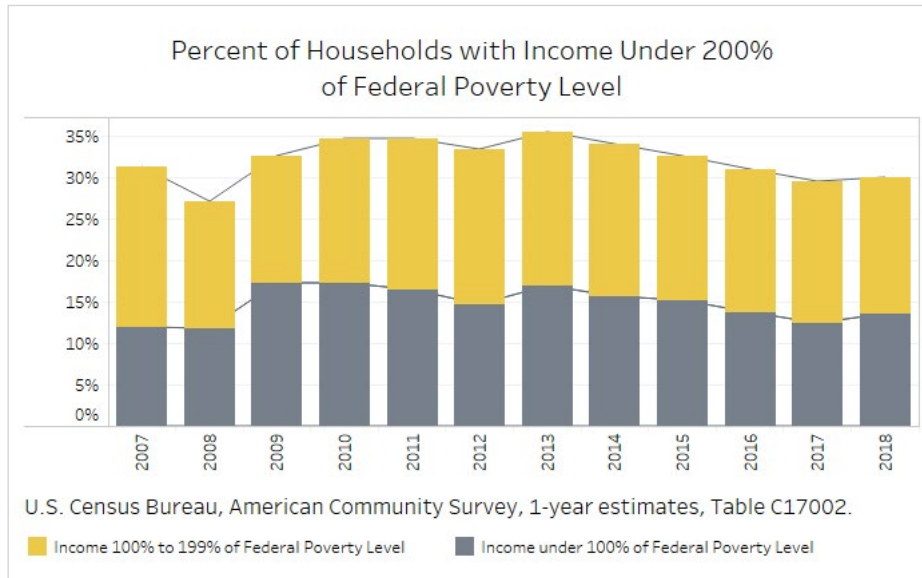


Figure 42

Households with incomes at 200% the federal poverty level or below are sometimes referred to as households “in or near poverty.”

- In 2018, the households with incomes below 200% of the federal poverty level comprised 30% of Lincoln's households.

Children in Poverty

The percentage of Lincoln's children in poverty remains below Great Recession levels

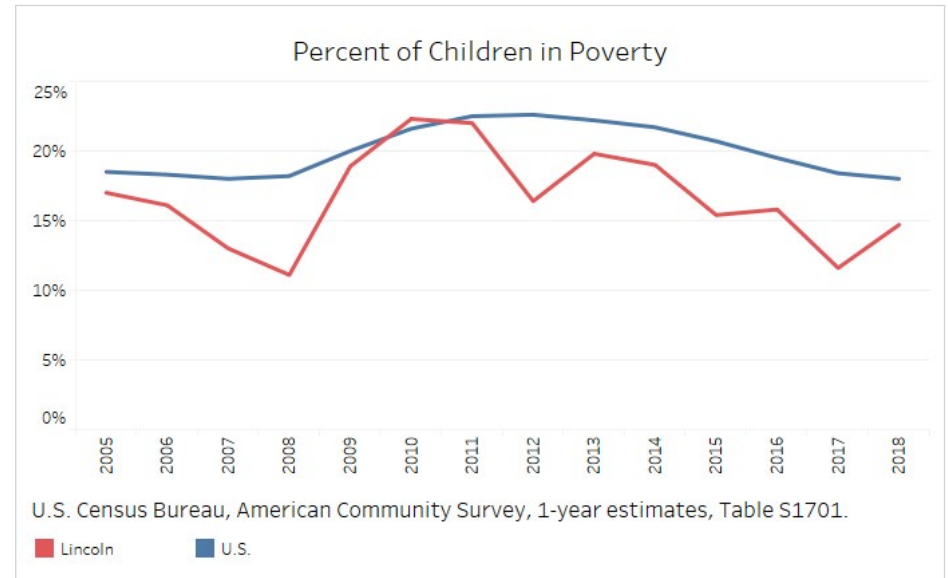


Figure 43

Children who live in poverty face tougher odds for achievement than do other children. Children who live in poverty for at least half of their childhoods are 90% more likely to leave high school without a diploma and four times more likely to be an unwed teen parent when compared with people who were never poor as children.²

- In 2018, 15% of Lincoln's children lived in poverty.
- Since 2009, there has been a 22% decrease in the number of children living in poverty.

Poverty by Age Group

Poverty rates among children and adults aged 18 to 64 years have decreased since the Great Recession

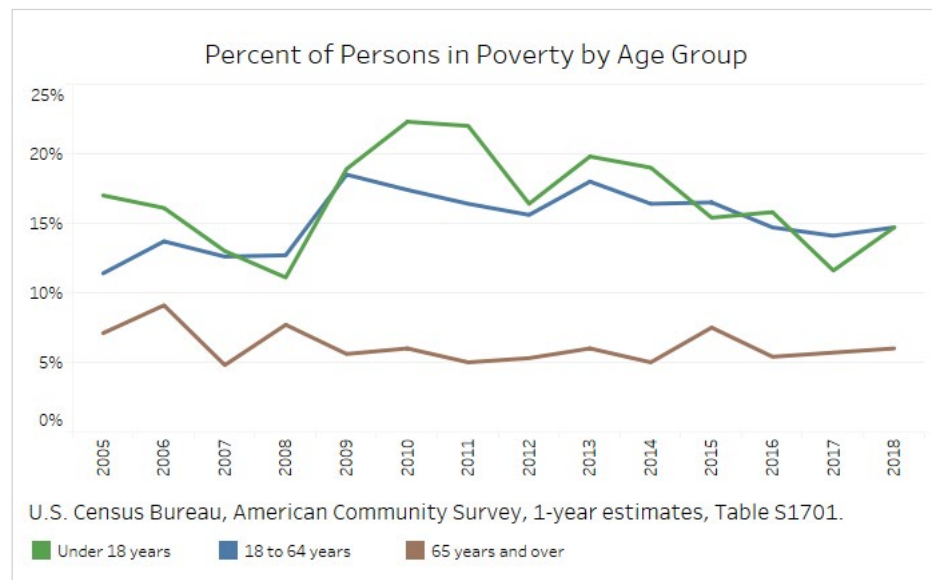


Figure 44

- Children (15%) and working-age adults (15%) have the same rate of poverty.
- Persons 65 years or older have a lower rate of poverty (6%) than other age groups.

Families in Poverty

Single female head of household families are more likely to be living in poverty compared to all other families

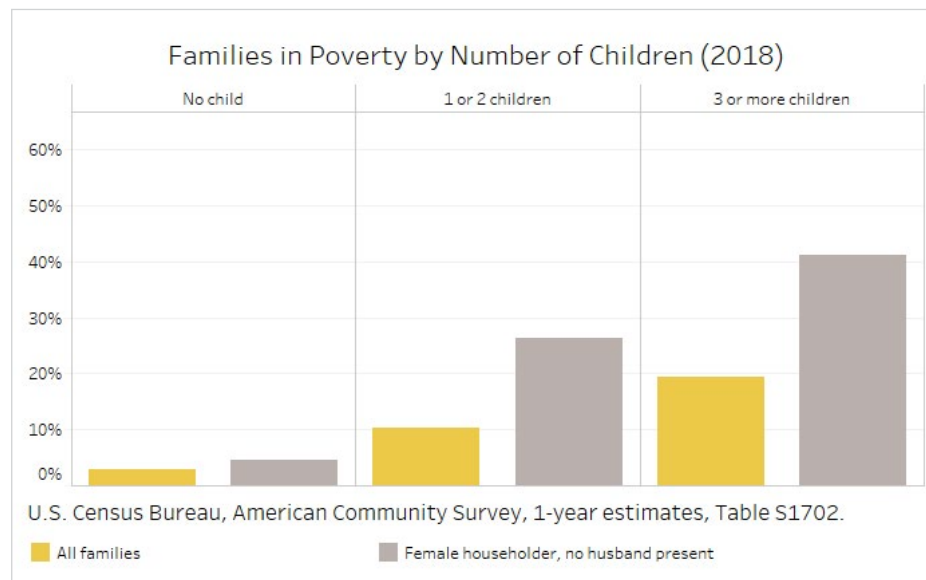


Figure 45

- Of all families with one or two children, 10% are living in poverty.
 - For single female head-of-household families with one or two children, 26% are in poverty.
- For all families with three or more children, the poverty rate is 19%.
- Single female head-of-household families with three or more children have a poverty rate of 41%.

Families in Poverty Over Time

Families with greater numbers of children are more likely to be in poverty

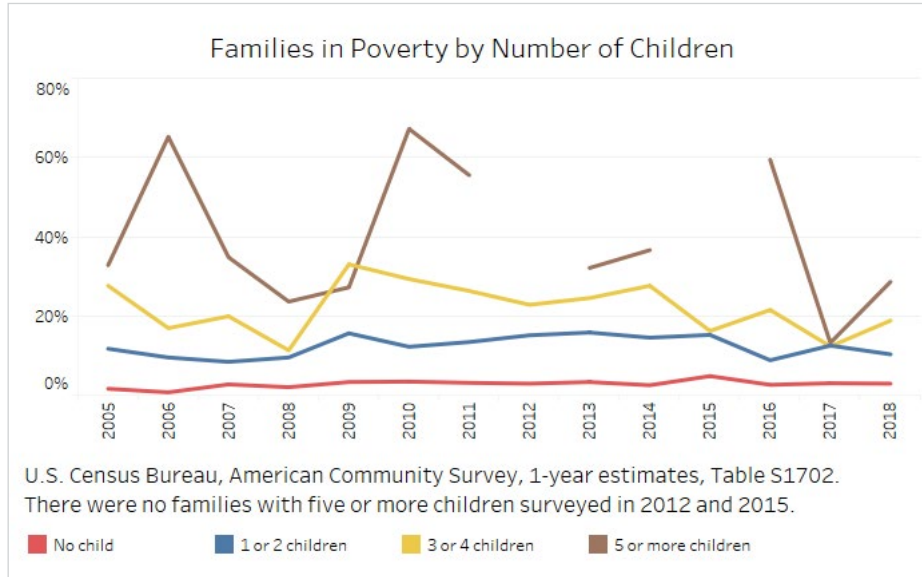


Figure 46

For all families, the number of children increases the likelihood of living in poverty.

- Since 2009, families with no children had a poverty rate between 2% and 5%.
- In the same timeframe, families with one or two children had a poverty rate between 8% and 16%.
- Families with three or four children had a poverty rate between 12% and 33%.

Poverty & Race/Ethnicity - Number

The number of persons in poverty increased among most racial/ethnic groups in Lincoln in the past year

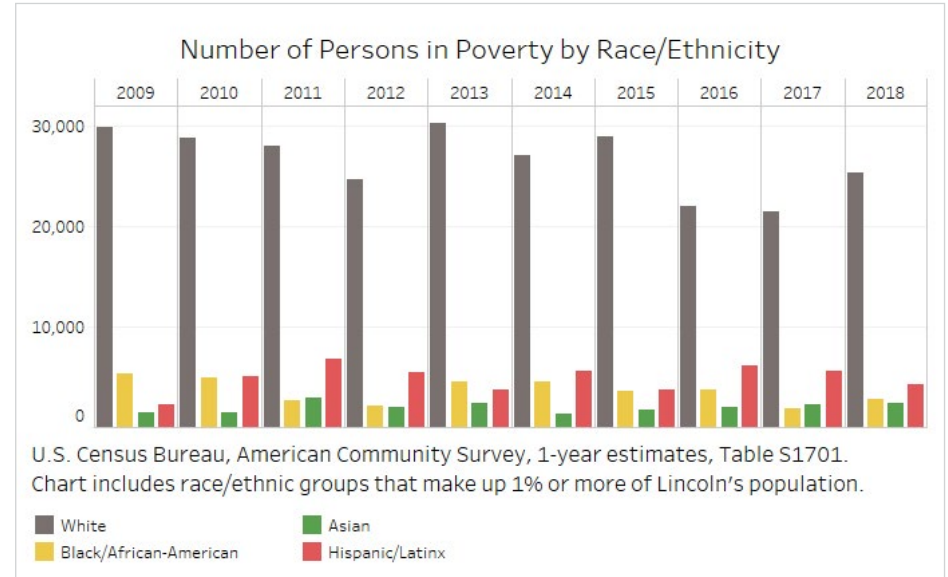


Figure 47

- The number of persons in poverty increased among all racial/ethnic groups in Lincoln except those of Hispanic/Latinx origin.
- Most individuals in poverty in Lincoln are White non-Hispanic/Latinx (25,277 in 2018).

Poverty & Race/Ethnicity – Percent

Racial and ethnic minorities have higher rates of poverty than White non-Hispanic/Latinx persons

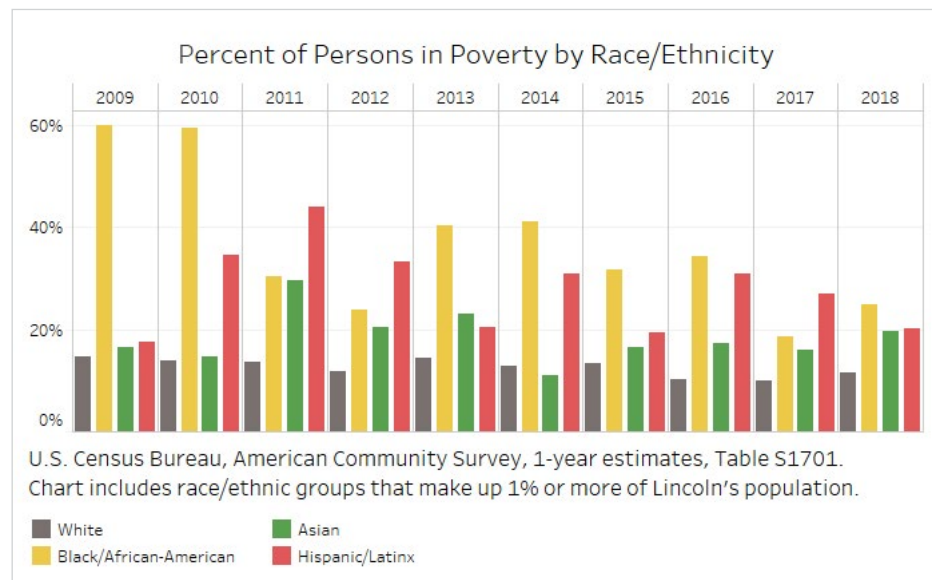


Figure 48

Poverty rates vary by race and ethnicity.

- Rates of poverty for Whites have held steady at about 13% since 2009, and have been the lowest of all races/ethnicities.
- The rate of poverty among Blacks/African-Americans has dropped from 60% to 25%, but is still the highest rate of poverty among major races/ethnicities in Lincoln.

Given Lincoln's increasingly diverse population, the high poverty rates among racial and ethnic minorities are cause for concern.

New Americans in Poverty

Newer New Americans in Lincoln have higher poverty rates

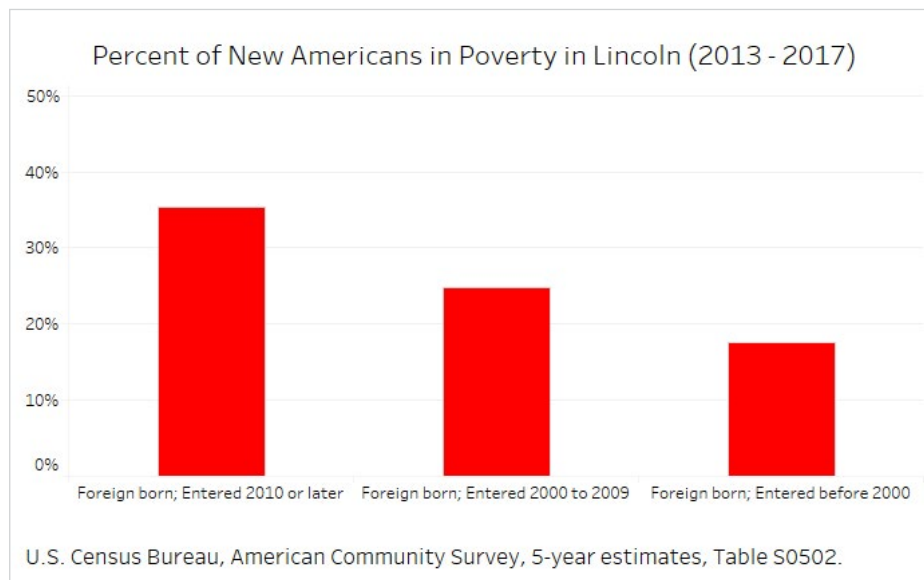


Figure 49

- Among foreign-born persons who live in Lincoln, persons who entered the United States prior to 2000 have poverty rates of 18%, whereas those who entered between 2000 to 2009 have a poverty rate of 25%, and those who entered after 2010 have a poverty rate of 35%.

Poverty by Education

Poverty rates are higher among those with less educational attainment

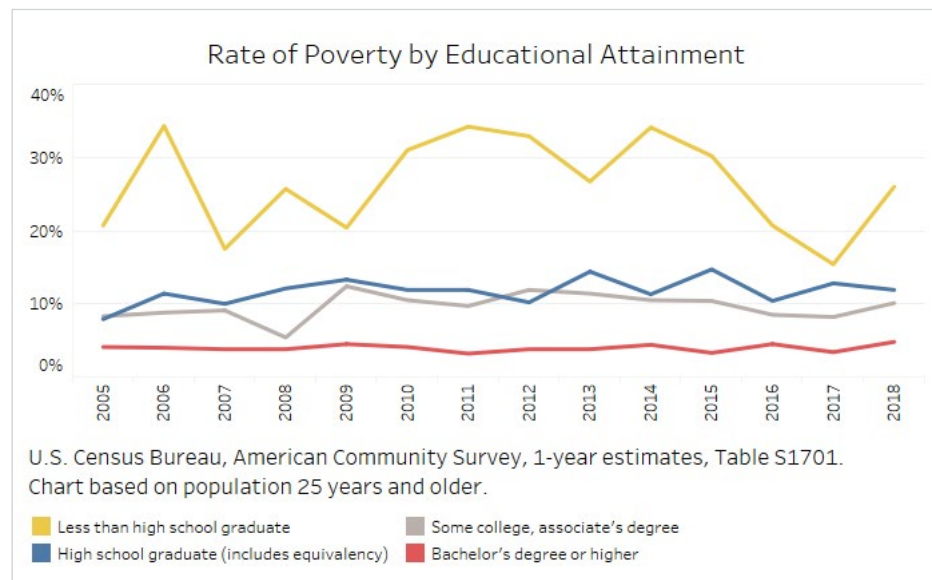


Figure 50

Lincoln residents with less than a high school diploma had higher poverty rates than those who achieved greater levels of educational attainment:

- 26% - Did not complete high school
- 12% - High school graduate or equivalent
- 10% - Some college, associate's degree
- 5% - Bachelor's degree or higher

The poverty rate for those with less than a high school diploma has varied widely in the past decade, and has been quite high in years since the Great Recession.

The poverty rate for other educational attainment groups was not greatly impacted by the Great Recession and has remained fairly level for the past decade.

Poverty by School Enrollment

Approximately 48% of those in poverty are enrolled in school

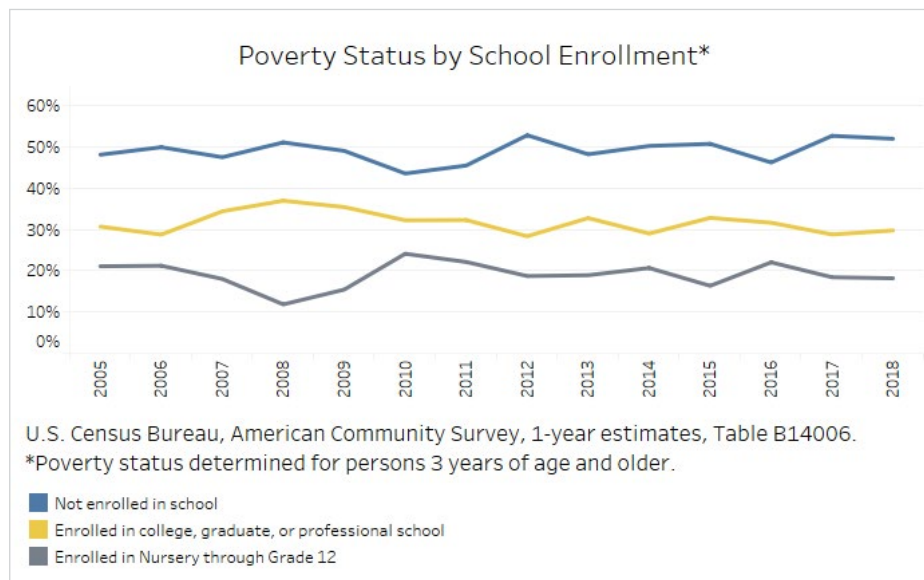


Figure 51

- Of persons in poverty, 52% are not enrolled in school.
- Approximately 30% of persons in poverty are enrolled in college or graduate/professional schools.
- Approximately 18% of persons in poverty are children enrolled in nursery school through grade 12.

Census Tracts in Extreme Poverty

There are seven neighborhoods in extreme poverty

Lincoln Census Tracts in Extreme Poverty

Census Tract	2010	2013	2015	2017
4*	42%	39%	36%	40%
5	60%	47%	46%	59%
7	32%	46%	40%	41%
8*	24%	28%	30%	43%
17^	38%	45%	36%	34%
18	26%	33%	43%	44%
19*	38%	36%	37%	47%
20.01	55%	46%	43%	45%
20.02^	40%	44%	42%	32%
31.03^	47%	40%	30%	25%
33.01^	41%	44%	35%	32%

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-year estimates, Table S1701.

*Added since the Lincoln Vital Signs 2017 report. ^No longer in extreme poverty. Does not include Census Tracts 6, 35, or 36.01.

Table 5

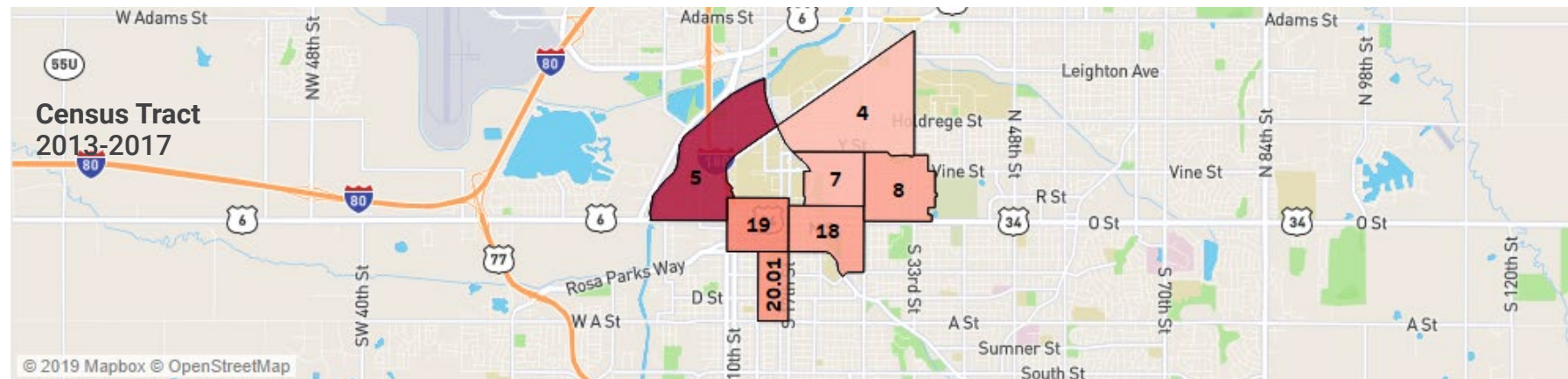
Neighborhoods in extreme poverty are generally considered to be those with more than 40% of residents in poverty. At this concentrated level of poverty, individuals begin to face cultural and social constraints that isolate them from opportunities for economic advancement.^{3,4}

- In 2000, Lincoln had no neighborhoods in extreme poverty.⁵
- In 2015, Lincoln had five neighborhoods in extreme poverty.

- In 2017, Lincoln had seven neighborhoods in extreme poverty. Neighborhoods in extreme poverty fluctuate over time, particularly for neighborhoods with poverty rates hovering close to 40%.
- Census Tracts 4, 8, and 19 are new extreme poverty neighborhoods in this report (at 40%, 43%, and 47% respectively).

Census Tract Poverty Map

Extreme poverty neighborhoods in Lincoln, 2012 to 2017



Census Tracts	Poverty Rate	HS Grad Rate	Family Households	Unemployment Rate	College Enrollment
5	59.1%	19.5%	18.0%	13.1%	88.6%
19	46.9%	5.3%	18.6%	8.4%	89.4%
20.01	45.0%	22.4%	20.1%	5.8%	51.7%
18	43.8%	29.4%	37.4%	7.2%	46.0%
8	43.3%	31.4%	56.2%	7.8%	47.7%
7	41.1%	16.5%	56.3%	9.8%	66.9%
4	40.3%	38.2%	47.1%	9.0%	79.7%
Lincoln Overall	12.4%	22.2%	58.4%	4.1%	60.4%

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-year estimates, Tables B14006, DP02, DP03, DP05, S1401, S1602, S1701. Highlighted and labeled areas are census tracts in extreme poverty.

Map 1

Extreme poverty neighborhoods are characterized by higher unemployment rates, high numbers of college students, higher numbers of racial/ethnic minorities, and lower educational attainment compared to Lincoln as a whole.

Although each of the extreme poverty neighborhoods has a unique profile, as of 2017 there were some similarities:

- All of them have an unemployment rate ranging from 6% to 13%, which is higher than the average for Lincoln as a whole (4%).
- Three of them (5, 7, 19) have a high school graduation rate lower than the average rate for Lincoln as a whole (22%).
- Among individuals aged 18-24, four of them (4, 5, 6, 19) had higher numbers of individuals enrolled in college or graduate school than Lincoln overall.
- Among the population 25 years or older, all but one Census Tract (19) had lower rates of those with a bachelor’s degree compared to the average rate for Lincoln as a whole (24%).
- All but one Census Tract (19) had a higher percentage of racial/ethnic minorities than Lincoln overall.

SNAP Benefits

SNAP program participation has declined in recent years

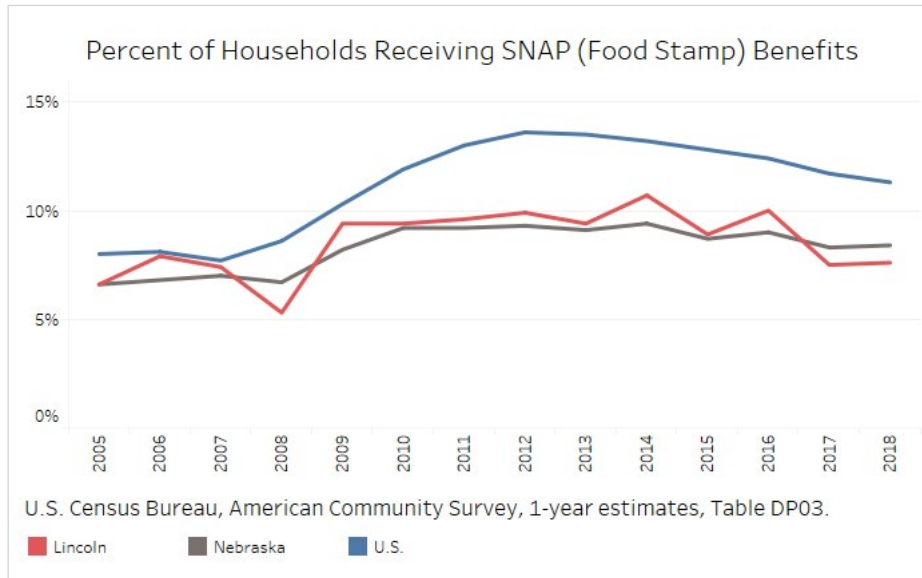


Figure 52

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP; formerly called food stamps) provides financial assistance for food purchases to households with incomes below 130% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.⁶

- Participation in SNAP has declined in the past decade, from 9.4% in 2009 to 7.6% in 2018.
- Lincoln's rate of SNAP participation is lower than the level of households that receive SNAP benefits in Nebraska (8.4%) and nationally (11.3%).

Free/Reduced Lunch

Free lunch participation has increased steadily over the past decade

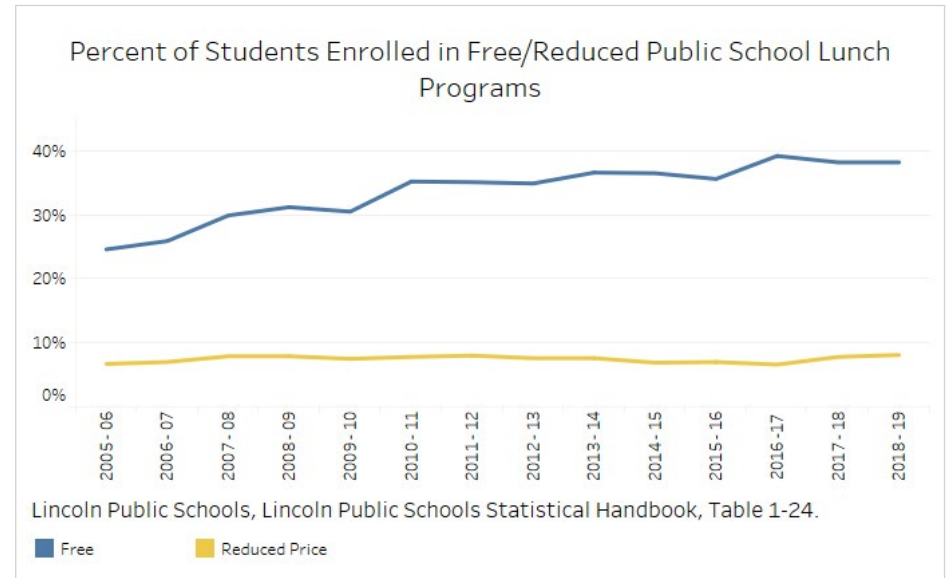


Figure 53

- In the 2018–19 school year, there were 3,262 students receiving reduced price lunches, and 15,377 receiving free lunches at Lincoln Public Schools, representing 46% of students.⁷
- The number of Lincoln Public School students receiving free or reduced lunch has grown 81% in the past decade.
- For more than a decade, students receiving reduced price lunch has held steady. This suggests that families facing great economic hardship have enrolled (eligible for free lunch), while families facing lesser economic hardship have not enrolled (eligible for reduced price lunch).

Food Insecurity

Lancaster County has the same rate of food insecurity as the United States and Nebraska as a whole

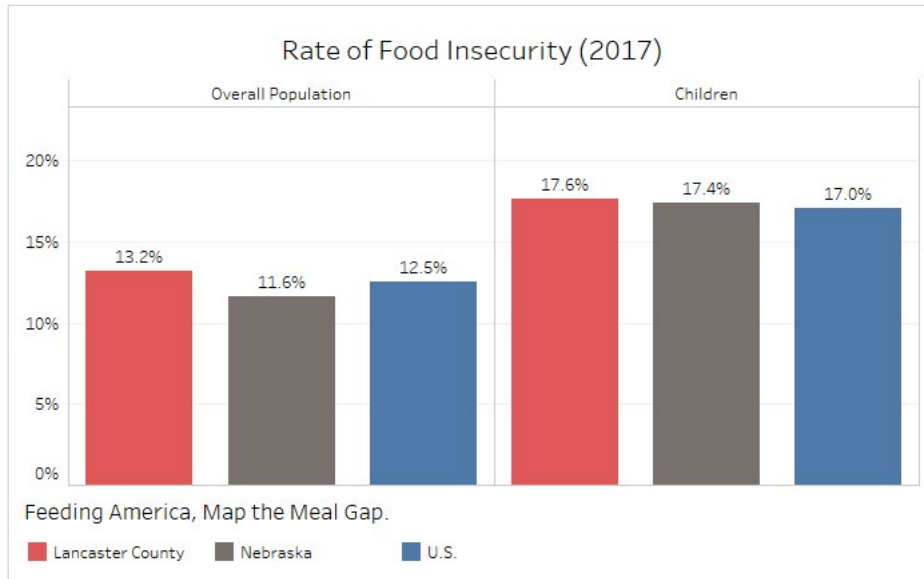


Figure 54

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) defines food insecurity as limited or uncertain access to adequate food.⁸ Food insecurity negatively impacts health.⁹ For children, it can also impede physical and mental development.¹⁰

- Lancaster County has the same rate of food insecurity as the rest of the United States (13%).
- Food insecurity in Lancaster County is higher for children (18%) than for the overall population (13%).

Food Insecurity Assistance Ineligibility

Lancaster County has higher rates of food insecure persons who are ineligible for federal nutrition programs compared to the United States

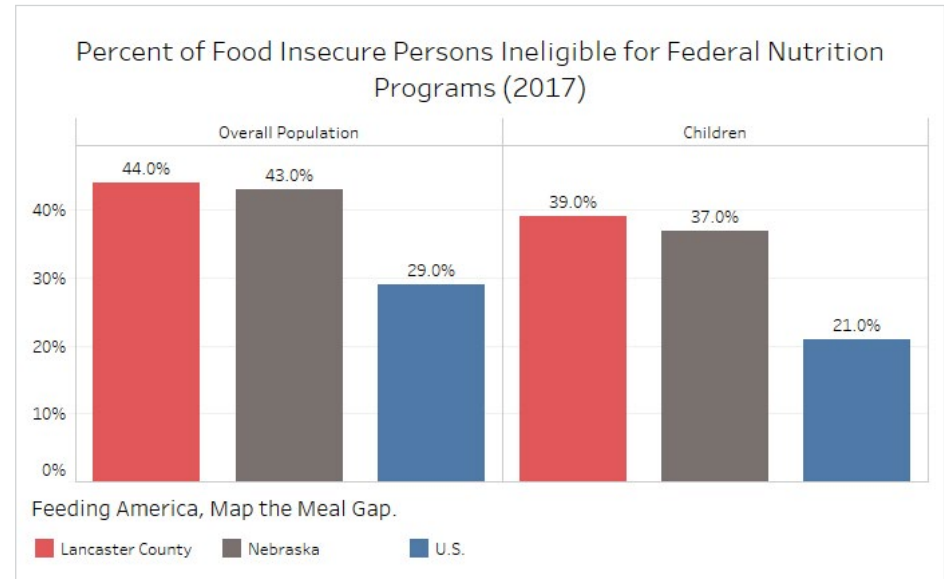


Figure 55

Those who are food insecure are the ones who can benefit most from federal nutrition programs.

- Lancaster County has a higher rate of food insecure persons who are ineligible for federal nutrition programs compared to the United States overall.
 - 44% of people overall, and 39% of children, who are food insecure in Lancaster County are not eligible to receive federal nutrition benefits.

Uninsured Population

The uninsured population in Lincoln has fluctuated between 9% and 17% over the past decade

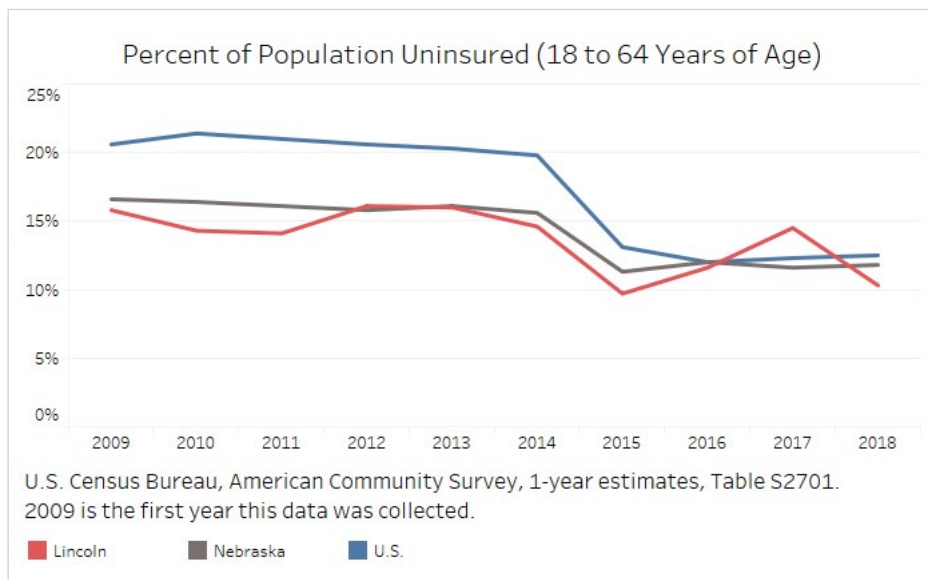


Figure 56

To identify the uninsured, it is common practice to focus on the population 18 to 64 years of age, because there are programs that ensure availability of health insurance to children (the Children's Health Insurance Program, called Kids Connection in Nebraska) and elders (Medicare).

- The percentage of the population 18 to 64 years of age without health insurance in Lincoln is lower than the U.S. average.
- In 2018, there were 21,225 uninsured people in Lincoln's 18 to 64 age group.

Medicaid-Only Coverage

The rate of adults in Lincoln covered only by Medicaid is lower than the United States overall

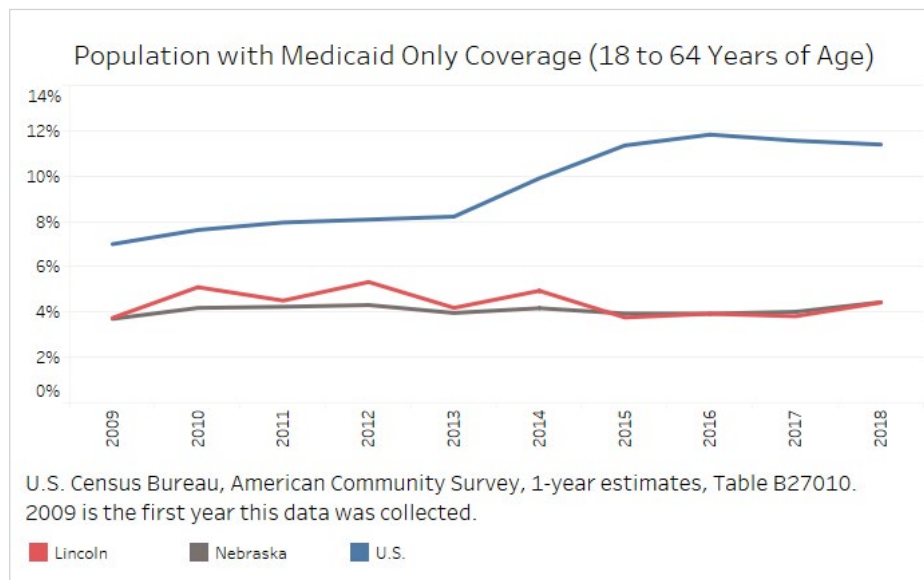


Figure 57

- In 2018, there were 7,835 people in the 18 to 64 age group in Lincoln with Medicaid-only health coverage.
- The rate of those with Medicaid-only coverage has remained fairly steady over the past decade.

Healthcare Coverage by Age

Insurance profile varies by age group

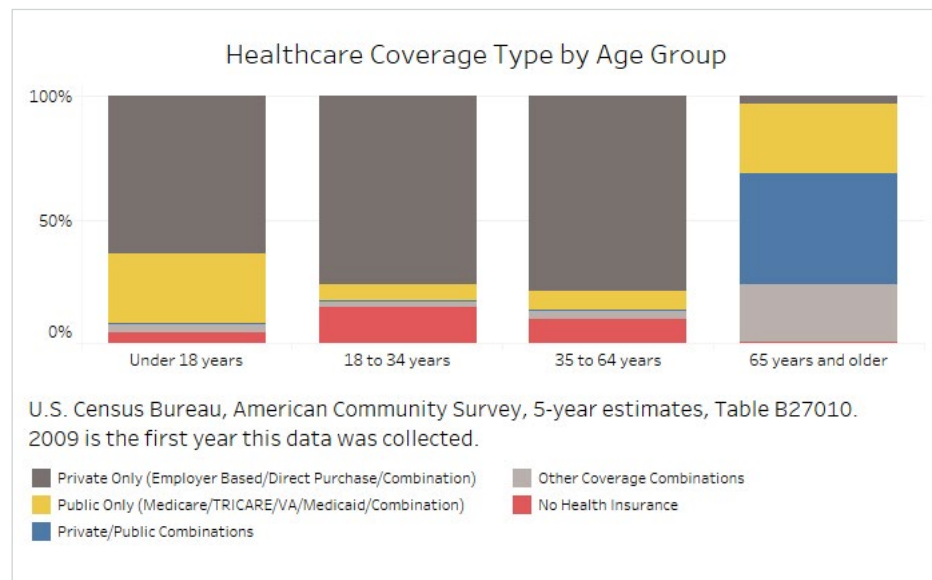


Figure 58

- Children and those 65 years and over have higher rates of publicly funded health insurance than do working age adults (18 to 64 years old).
- The working age population has the highest rates of no health insurance.

Cost of Living Index

Housing costs in Lincoln are low

Cost of Living Index - Lincoln, NE		
	Overall	Housing
2018	94%	81%
2017	93%	83%
2016	91%	79%
2015	91%	79%
2014	91%	76%
2013	90%	76%
2012	93%	82%
2011	93%	84%
2010	92%	82%

The Council for Community and Economic Research, Cost of Living Index (COLI).

Table 6

In Lincoln, low housing costs are a significant component of the low cost of living.

- In 2018, the cost of housing in Lincoln was 81% of the national average.
- Low housing costs do not appear to be caused by oversupply: In Lincoln, homeowner and rental vacancy rates are lower than those in the rest of Nebraska and the nation.¹¹

Housing Costs

Over one-third of renters in Lincoln are spending a large portion of their income on housing

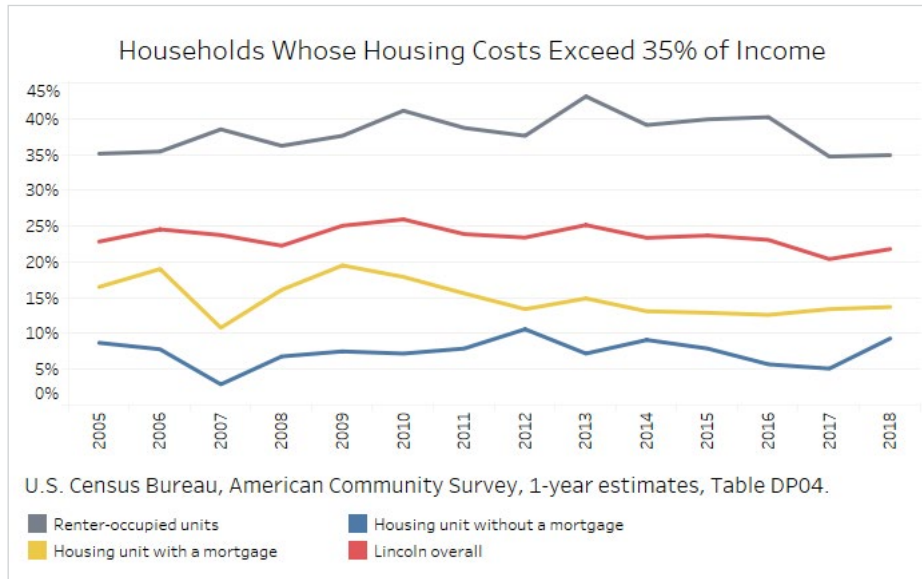


Figure 59

A standard measure of housing affordability is the percentage of household income devoted to housing costs. In general, many experts believe that housing costs should not exceed 30% of a household's income, and that the percentage should decrease for lower income households.¹²

- 35% of all renting households pay 35% or more of their income on housing.¹³
- 14% of homeowners carrying a mortgage pay 35% or more of their income on housing.
- 9% of homeowners with no mortgage pay 35% or more of their income on housing.¹⁴

Homeless Count

Homelessness in Lincoln is declining

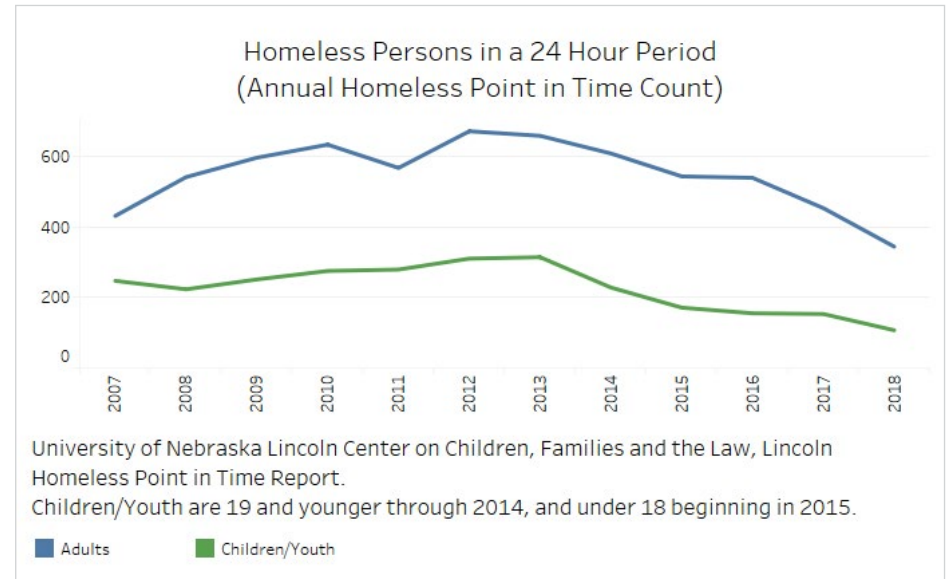


Figure 60

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development mandates that an annual count be conducted of homeless individuals¹⁵ on a specified date. The most recent data reported is from the count conducted in 2018.

- In 2018, 451 persons in Lincoln were counted as homeless in the annual homeless Point-in-Time Count.
- In 2018, a little less than one quarter of homeless individuals were children under 18 years of age (107 children).
- The homeless count hit a high in 2012 of 981 persons (310 children and 671 adults), and has been declining since.¹⁶
 - The number of homeless children is 65% lower than in 2012 (310 in 2012 vs. 107 in 2018).
 - The number of homeless adults is 49% lower than in 2012 (671 in 2012 vs. 344 in 2018).

Homeless Rate by Age

The rates of homelessness among youth and adults are at their lowest in the last decade

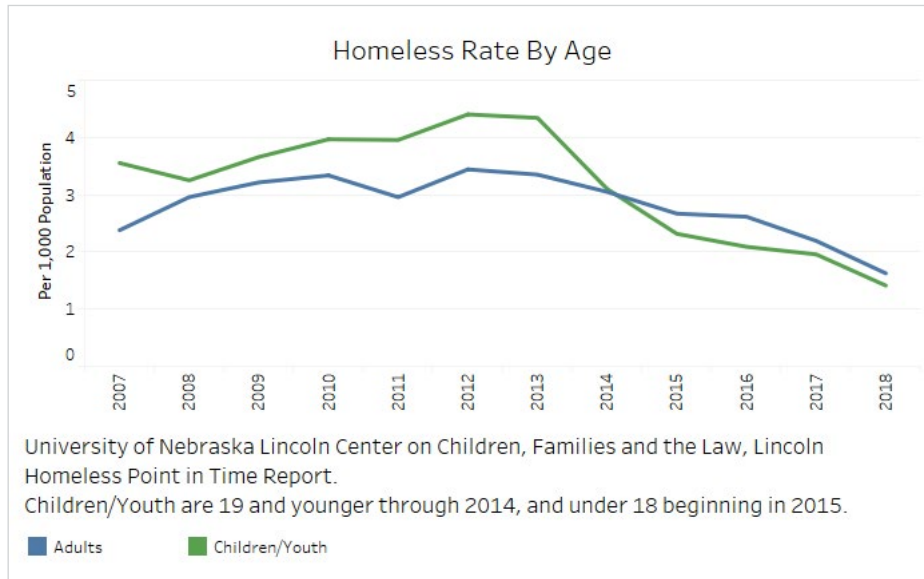


Figure 61

When homelessness is viewed as a proportion of the population, a larger proportion of the 19 and under population in Lincoln was homeless compared to the 20 and over population through 2014. Since 2015, the homeless rate among youth is lower than the rate among adults.

- Homelessness peaked in Lincoln in 2012, when there was a homeless rate of 4.4 children per 1000, and 3.4 adults per 1000.
- In 2018, the homeless rate among children was 1.4 per 1000, and 1.6 per 1000 among adults.
 - These are the lowest homelessness rates per 1000 among both children and adults in the past decade.

Basic Needs Notes

1. Critics have said that the Federal Poverty Threshold, developed in the early 1960s, should be improved. The measure uses food costs and a multiplier of three to calculate needed income. Needed income is compared to gross income and does not include in-kind benefits, nor does it recognize increased labor participation of women (and related child care costs), variability in health care costs across populations, or variability of expenses across geographies. These and other factors may underestimate poverty for persons in working families and overestimate poverty for persons in families receiving public assistance.
2. Fiester, L. (2013). *Early warning confirmed: A research update on third-grade reading*. Baltimore, MD: Annie E Casey Foundation.
3. Quane, J. M., & Wilson, W. J. (2012). Critical commentary: Making the connection between the socialisation and the social isolation of the inner-city poor. *Urban Studies*, 49(14), 2977-2987. doi: 10.1177/0042098012453857.
4. Wilson, W. J. (2010). Why both social structure and culture matter in a holistic analysis of inner-city poverty. *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 629,200-219. doi: 10.1177/0002716209357403
5. Due to changes in the Census' methodology for sampling populations, caution must be exercised when comparing 2000 decennial data with the newer American Community Survey data. Lincoln has 72 Census Tract neighborhoods. Neighborhoods for which extreme poverty was calculated exclude Census Tract 6, situated directly over the main campus of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Census Tract 35, situated over the Lincoln Regional Center; and Census Tract 36.01, covering the State Penitentiary.
6. Federal Poverty Guidelines are based on size of household and income. In fiscal year 2018, a four-person household with an income less than \$31,980 (the equivalent of 130% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines) would be eligible for SNAP benefits. United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). (2018). Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) FY 2018 Income Eligibility Standards. Retrieved from <https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/snap/FY18-Income-Eligibility-Standards.pdf>
7. In general, students are eligible for free lunch if their household income is less than 130% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, and eligible for reduced lunch if their household income is less than 185% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. In the 2018-19 school year, students in a family of four with a household income less than \$32,630 would be eligible for free lunch, and those with a household income less than \$46,435 would be eligible for

Basic Needs Notes Cont.

reduced lunch. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service. (2018). Child nutrition programs: Income eligibility guidelines. Federal Register/Vol. 83, No. 89/Tuesday, May 8, 2018. Retrieved from <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2018-05-08/pdf/2018-09679.pdf>

8. United States Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service. (Last Updated September 4, 2019). Definitions of Food Security. Retrieved November 4, 2019 from: <https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-nutrition-assistance/food-security-in-the-us/definitions-of-food-security.aspx>
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10. Feeding America (n.d.) Child Hunger in America. Retrieved November 4, 2019 from: <http://www.feedingamerica.org/hunger-in-america/impact-of-hunger/child-hunger/>
11. U.S. Census Bureau. American Community Survey. American Community Survey 2017 1-year estimates. Table DP04.
12. Schwartz, M., & Wilson, E., (n.d.) Who can afford to live in a home?: A look at data from the 2006 American Community Survey. Washington, DC: United States Census Bureau.
13. Data are limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters.
14. Costs for households without a mortgage may include home equity loans, real estate taxes, homeowner's insurance, association fees, and utilities.
15. The HUD definition of homelessness for the purpose of a Point-in-Time homeless count includes only people who are living unsheltered on the streets, in a vehicle or another place not fit for human habitation, or in an emergency shelter or transitional housing program. Many people and families considered homeless, or at risk of homelessness, including those in prison/jail, living in hotels/motels, or "couch surfing" are NOT included in the count.
16. The decrease in homelessness is believed to be attributable to increased support of homeless persons through the Rapid Rehousing, Permanent Supportive Housing, and domestic violence housing programs.



Education

Communities with educated populations are more productive, more innovative, and earn higher salaries.¹ In Lincoln, **more early childhood providers are participating in quality improvement initiatives** that should lead to improved outcomes for Lincoln children. Lincoln Public Schools' enrollment is growing. Lincoln Public School students **score higher than the state averages** for third grade language arts, fourth grade writing, and eighth grade math proficiencies. However, Lincoln Public Schools' **graduation rate has fallen below both the national and statewide average**. From the earliest standardized tests through graduation rates, children from racial/ethnic minorities and from low-income households face **disparities in educational achievement and attainment**.

Providers Participating in SUTQ

Childcare providers continue to enroll in the Step Up to Quality program

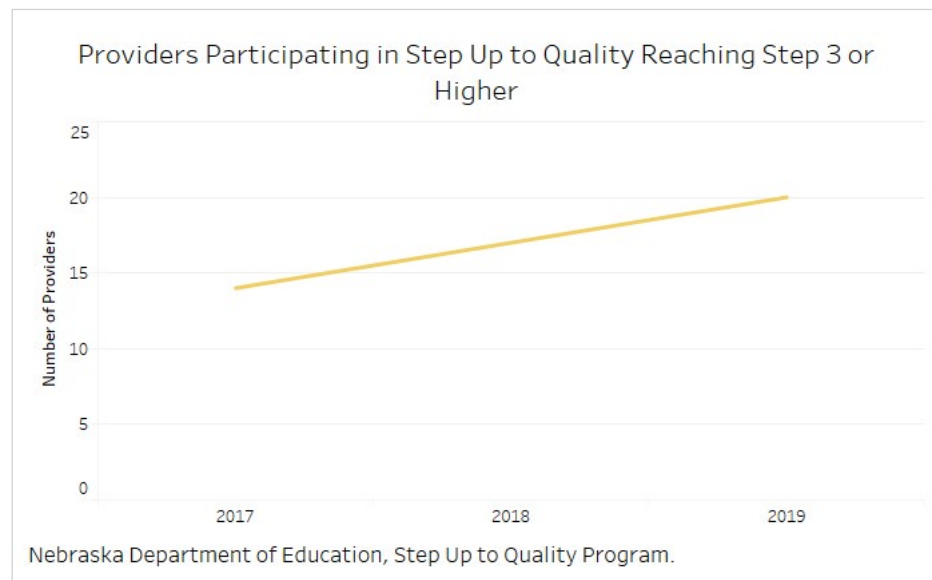


Figure 62

In 2013, Nebraska passed the Step Up to Quality Child Care Act.² This act provides training and subsidies to encourage childcare providers' participation in a quality rating system. The program's first year of operation was 2015.

- As of 2019, 20 childcare providers in Lincoln have currently reached Step 3 in the Step Up to Quality program. This has steadily increased from 14 childcare providers in 2017, and 17 in 2018.

Young Children Enrolled in SUTQ Providers

A third of all children in Lincoln aged 0-5 are enrolled with childcare providers participating in Step Up to Quality

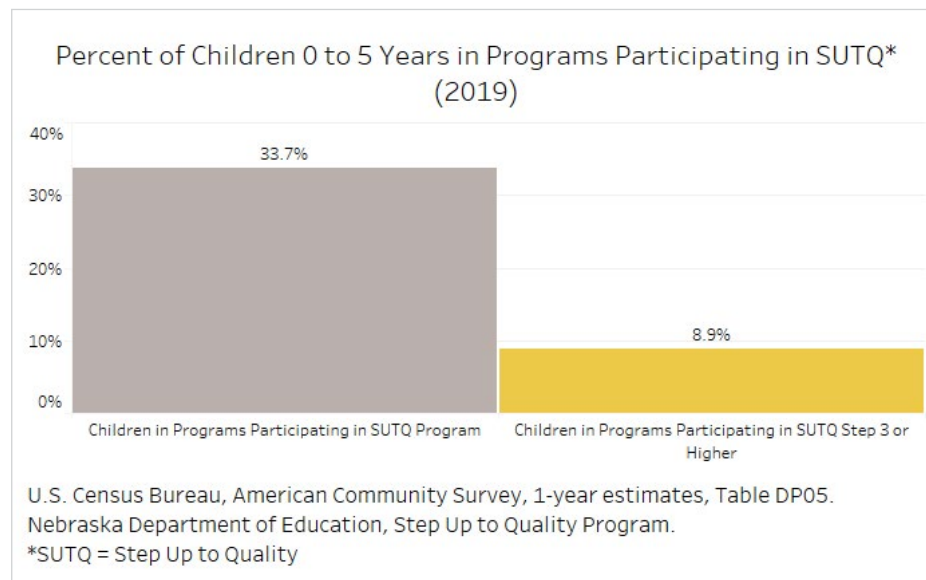


Figure 63

- 34% of all children aged 0-5 are enrolled with childcare providers participating in the Step Up to Quality program.
- 9% of all children aged 0-5 are enrolled with providers that have obtained Step 3 or higher in the Step Up to Quality program. This is nearly double the amount from 2017, when 5% of Lincoln pre-kindergarten children were enrolled with Step 3 or higher providers in the Step Up to Quality program.

Students Enrolled in LPS K-12 Schools

K-12 enrollment in Lincoln Public Schools has grown 19% since 2009

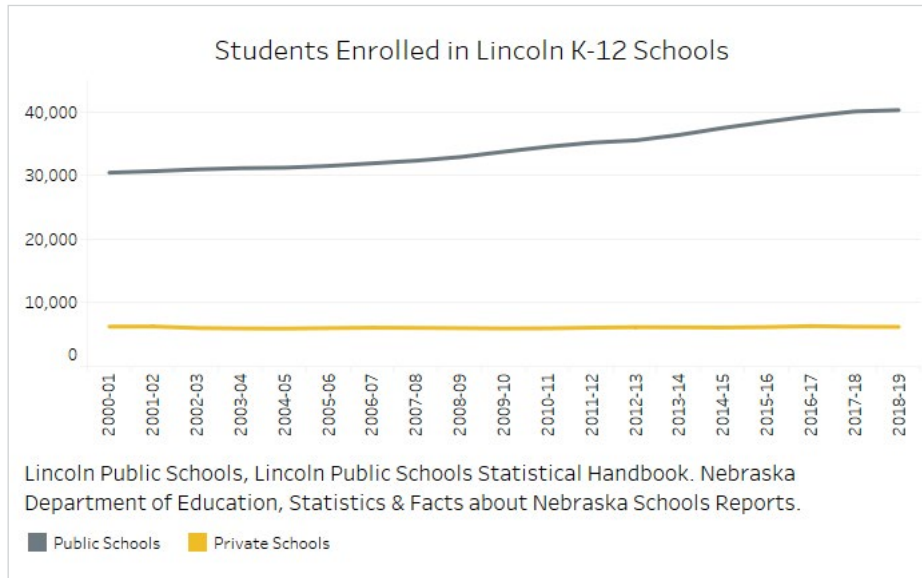


Figure 64

In 2018, 86% of students were enrolled in Lincoln’s public schools.

- Public school enrollment has increased 19% in the past decade (33,757 children in 2009 compared to 40,295 in 2018).
- Private school enrollment has increased 4% in the past decade (5,962 children in 2009 compared to 6,207 in 2018).
- Lincoln public schools also provides services, such as special education, to eligible private school students.

Figure 65

Third grade language arts proficiency is the earliest standardized test given to all public school students in Nebraska. Third grade language arts proficiency measures student achievement at a critical transition point in their educational careers: “Until the end of third grade, most students are learning to read. Beginning in fourth grade,

Third Grade Language Proficiency

Third grade language proficiency is important indicator of future success

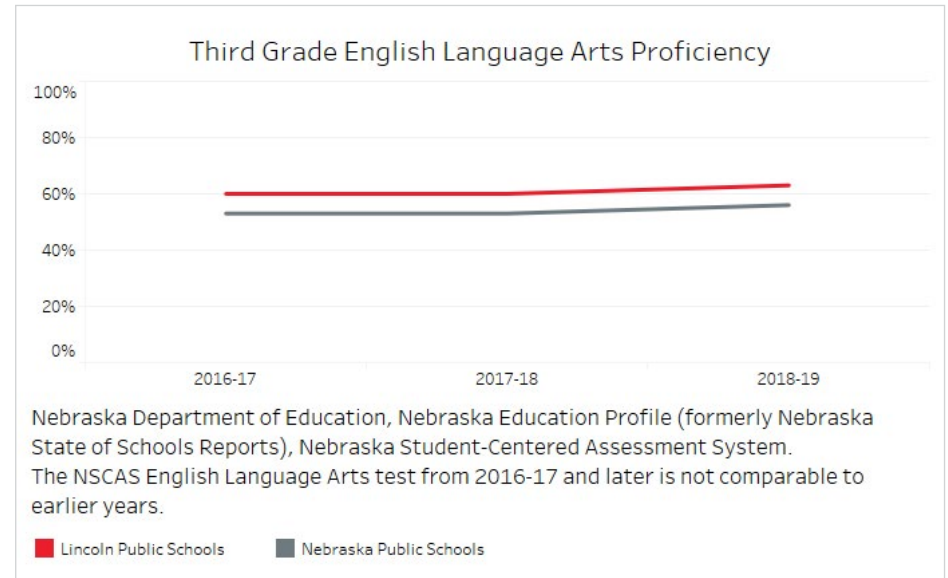


Figure 65

however, students begin reading to learn.³ Students who do not read proficiently at third grade are four times more likely to leave school without a diploma,⁴ while third graders who read at or above their level are more likely to graduate and attend college.⁵

The Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS) is the statewide assessment system for language arts skills that public schools have employed since 2016-17. It is not comparable to the older NeSA (Nebraska State Accountability) assessment.

- Third grade language arts proficiency among LPS students is 63%, compared to 56% of students statewide.
- For the past three years, a higher proportion of LPS third graders were language arts proficient than for Nebraska public school students as a whole.

Third Grade Language Arts Differential

There are significant disparities by race and ethnicity and income in third grade language arts proficiency

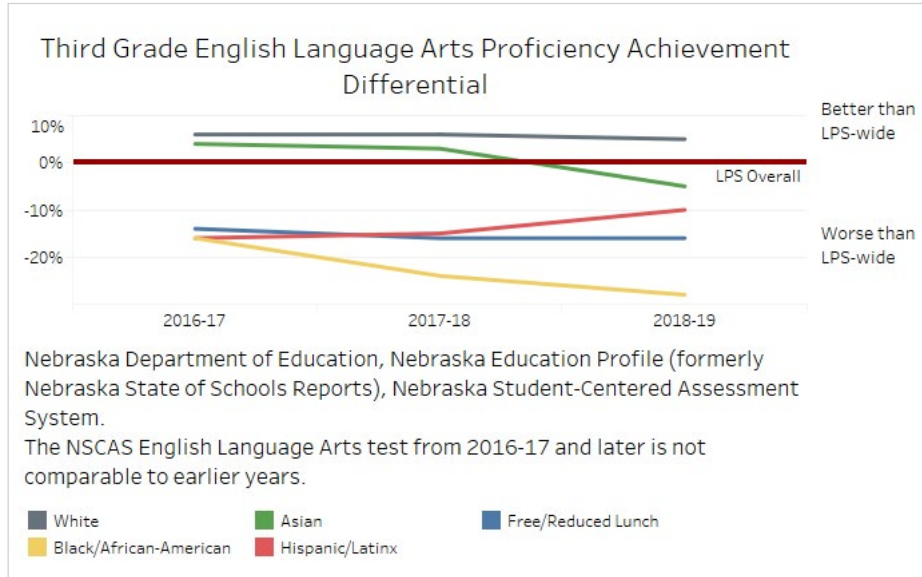


Figure 66

- Among racial and ethnic minorities, Asians trail the overall LPS population by 5%, Hispanics/Latinx trail by 10%, and Black/African-Americans trail by 28%.
- Students who receive free/reduced lunch (a proxy for low income⁶) trail the overall LPS population by 16%.
- Research suggests that the source of variation in educational achievement is mainly linked to family economic status and not race/ethnicity alone.^{7,8}

Fourth Grade Writing Proficiency

Fourth grade writing is a component of literacy.

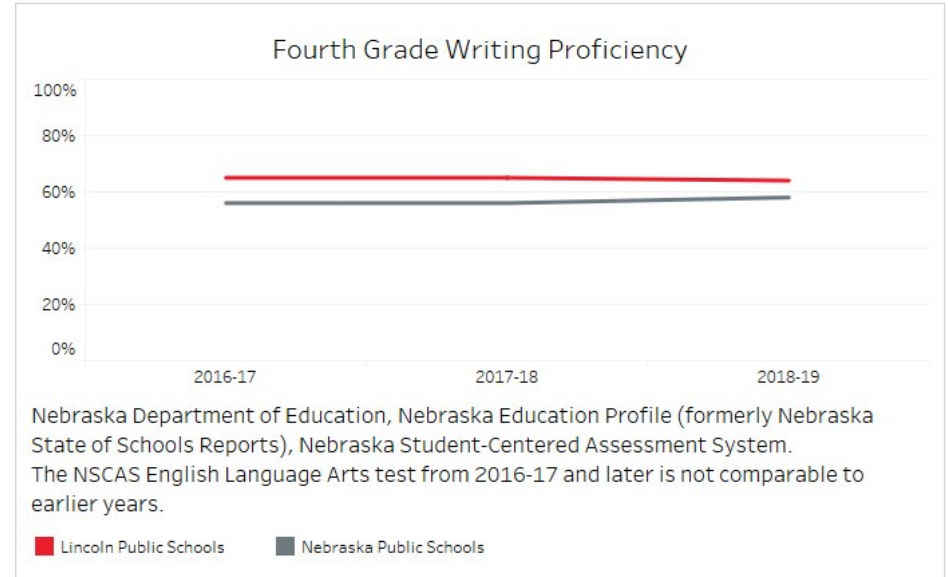


Figure 67

Along with reading, writing is an important component of literacy. In fourth grade, Nebraska public school students take a writing proficiency test as part of the NSCAS.

- In 2018-19, fourth grade writing proficiency among LPS students was 64%, compared to 58% of public school students statewide.
- Over the past three years, a higher proportion of LPS fourth graders were writing proficient compared to public school fourth graders statewide.

Fourth Grade Writing Proficiency Differential

There are significant disparities by race and ethnicity and income in fourth grade writing proficiency

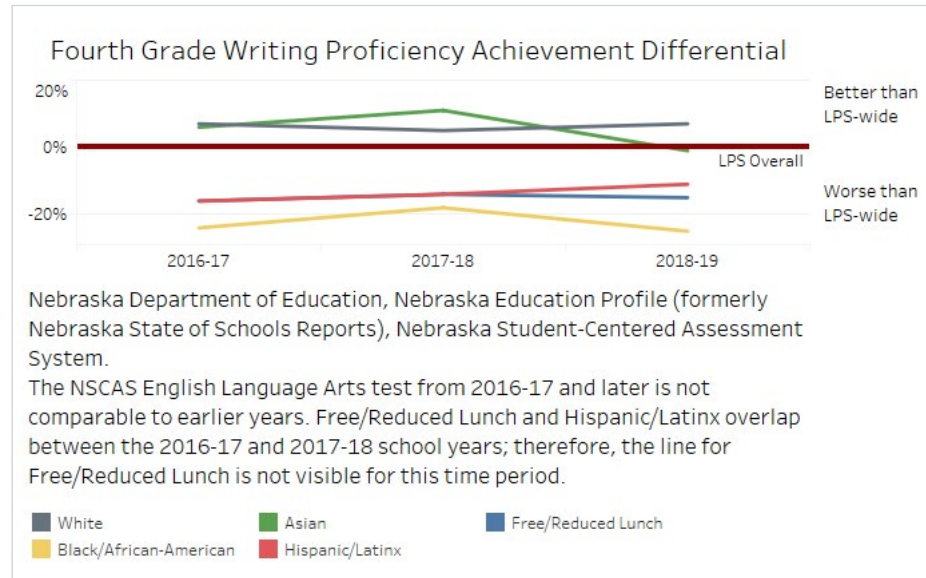


Figure 68

- Among racial and ethnic minorities, Asians trail the overall LPS population by 1%, Hispanics/Latinx trail by 11%, and Black/African-Americans trail by 25%.
- Students who receive free/reduced lunch trail the overall LPS population by 15%.

Eighth Grade Math Proficiency

Eighth grade math proficiency has declined in the past year

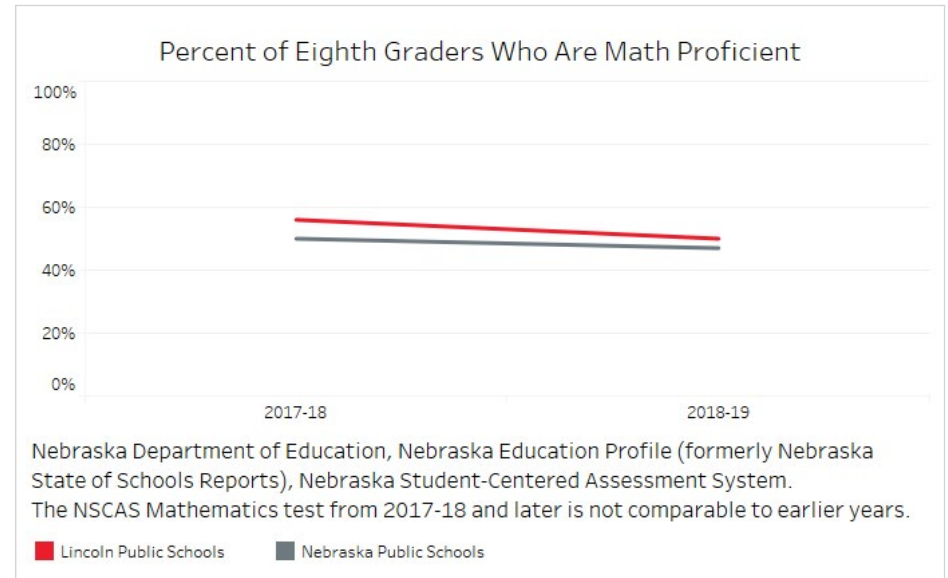


Figure 69

The Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS) assessment for mathematics was first used in the 2017-18 school year.

- In 2018, math proficient scores dropped 11% from the previous year.
- LPS eighth grade students have a higher math proficiency score than eighth grade public school students statewide.

Eighth Grade Math Proficiency Differential

There are significant disparities by race and ethnicity in eighth grade math proficiency

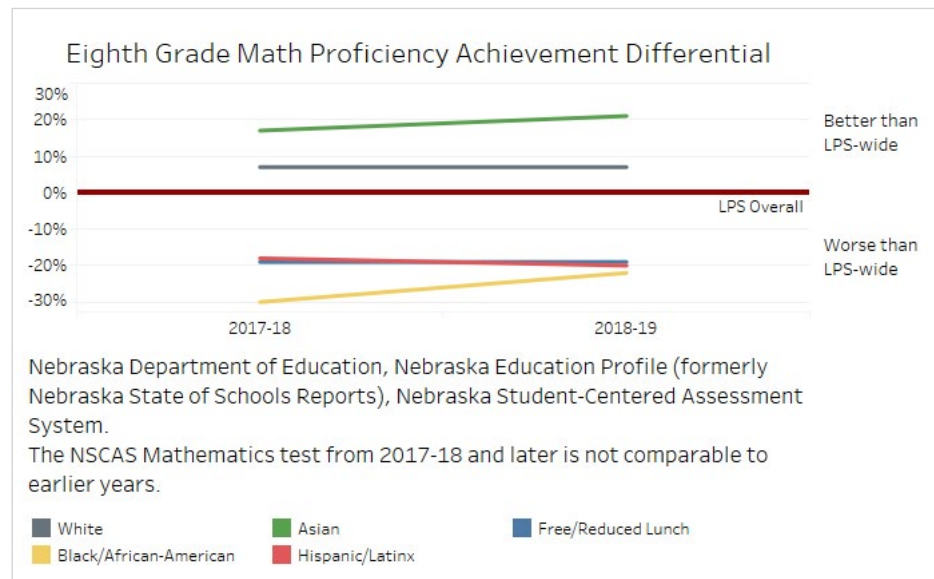


Figure 70

- Asian students have the highest eighth grade math proficiency, 21% above the overall LPS population. Whites also achieve above the overall LPS population by 7%.
- Hispanics/Latinx trail the overall LPS population by 20%, and Black/African-Americans trail by 22%.
- Students who receive free/reduced lunch trail the overall LPS population by 19%.

Graduation Rate

LPS high school graduation rates are lower than the national average

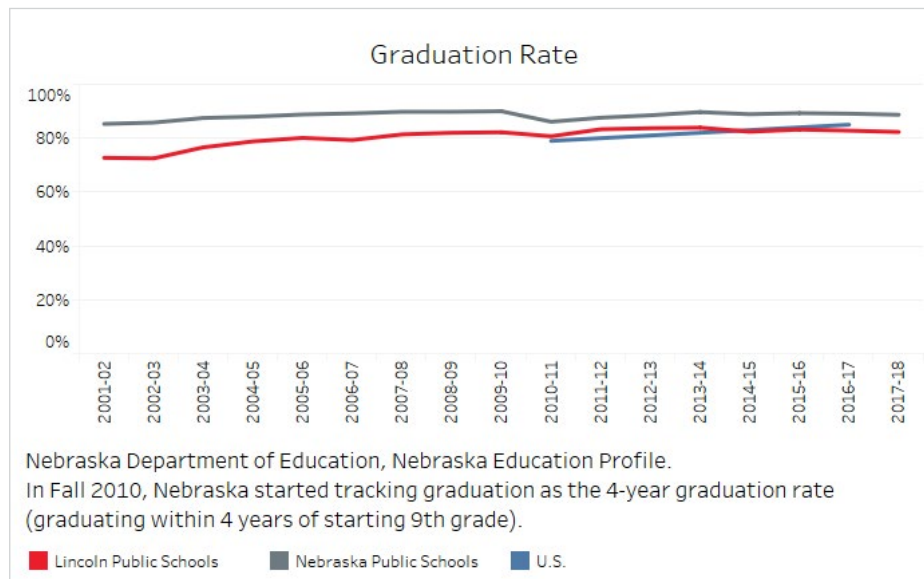


Figure 71

The national high school graduation rate exceeds the graduation rate for Lincoln Public Schools. This is due to an increase in the national rate over the past five years, while LPS graduation rates have been flat.

- Nationally, 85% of public high school students receive their high school diploma within four years of starting high school (for students graduating in the 2016-17 school year).^{9,10}
- In the 2016-17 school year, the LPS high school graduation rate was 83%, whereas Nebraska's graduation rate was 89%.

Note: For the purposes of comparability, this report uses the state/national methodology for calculating graduation rate.

Graduation Rate Differential

There are significant disparities by race and ethnicity and income in high school graduation rates

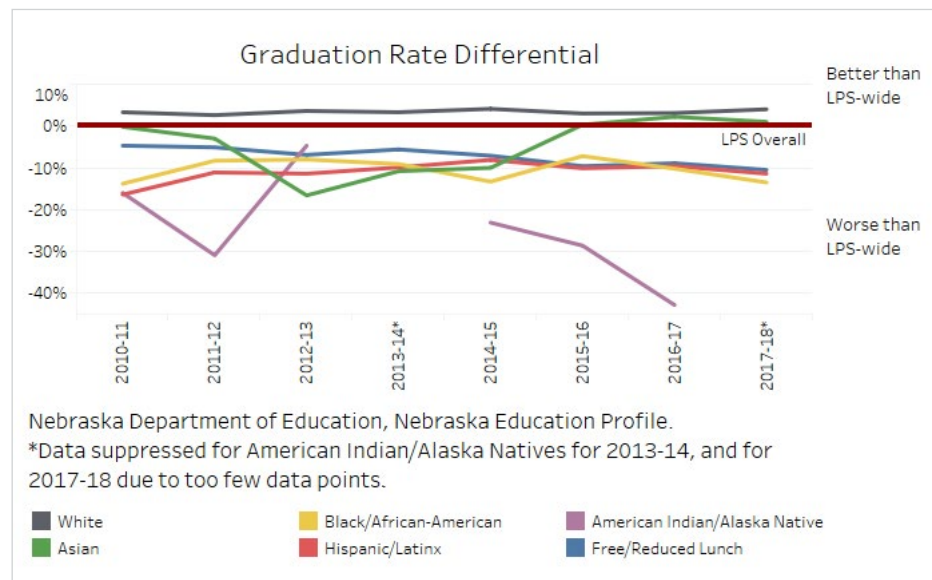


Figure 72

High school graduation rates vary widely by race, ethnicity, and income.

- Since 2010, Whites exceed the overall LPS graduation rate an average of 3%.
- Among racial and ethnic minorities since 2010, Asians trail the overall LPS graduation rate an average of 5%, Black/African-Americans trail an average of 10%, and Hispanics/Latinx trail an average of 11%.
- Graduation rate data is missing for American Indian/Alaska Native students for the 2013-14 and 2017-18 years. For existing data, American Indian/Alaska Native students trail the overall LPS graduation rate an average of 24%.
- Students who receive free/reduced lunch trail the LPS rate an average of 7%.

Dropout Rate

LPS high school dropout rates have declined

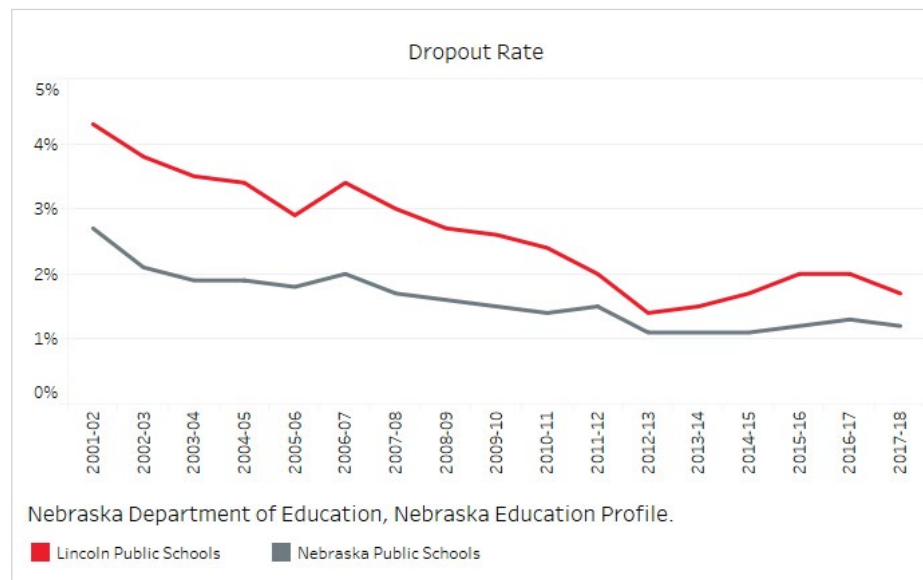


Figure 73

- The LPS high school dropout rate is 1.7%, slightly higher than the statewide dropout rate of 1.2%.

Dropout Rate Differential

There are significant disparities by race and ethnicity in high school dropout rates

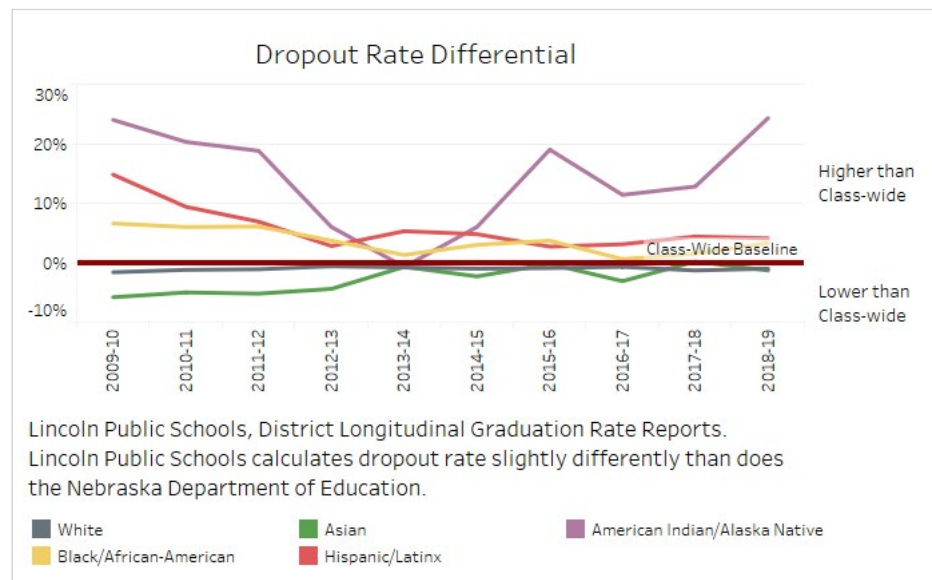


Figure 74

High school graduation rates have varied widely by race and ethnicity.

- Among racial and ethnic minorities, Asians have trailed the overall LPS dropout rate an average of 3%. Black/African-Americans exceeded the overall LPS dropout rate an average of 4%, Hispanics/Latinx exceeded the overall rate an average of 6%, and American Indian/Alaska Native students exceeded the overall LPS rate an average of 14%.

Postsecondary Enrollment of LPS Graduates

Most Lincoln Public School graduates enter postsecondary institutions

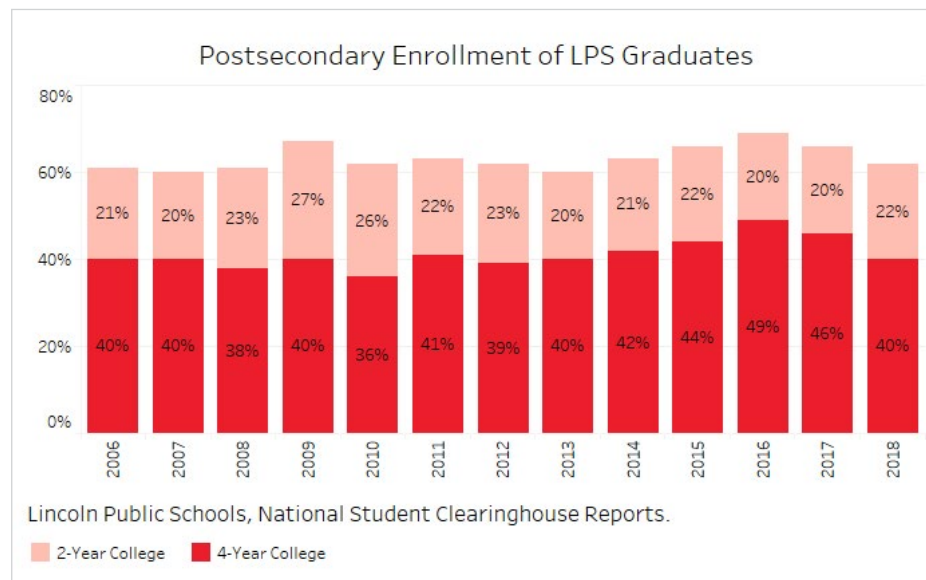


Figure 75

- In 2018, 40% of Lincoln Public School graduates entered 4-year colleges.
- In 2018, 22% of Lincoln Public School graduates entered 2-year colleges.

Ages 18–24 in College or Graduate School

In Lincoln, almost two-thirds of people aged 18–24 years old are enrolled in college or graduate school

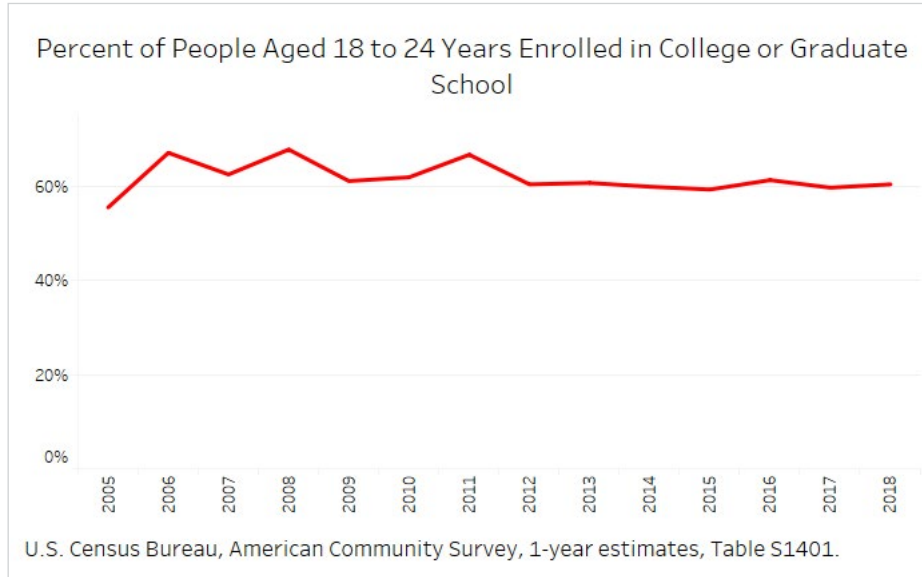


Figure 76

Lincoln is home to several postsecondary educational institutions, including the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Nebraska Wesleyan University, Union College, Southeast Community College, and other private institutions.

- In 2018, 60% of persons in Lincoln 18 to 24 years of age were enrolled in college or graduate school.

Adults W/ H.S. Diploma or Bachelor's Degree

Lincoln has a higher rate of people with high school diplomas and bachelor's degrees compared to Nebraska and the nation

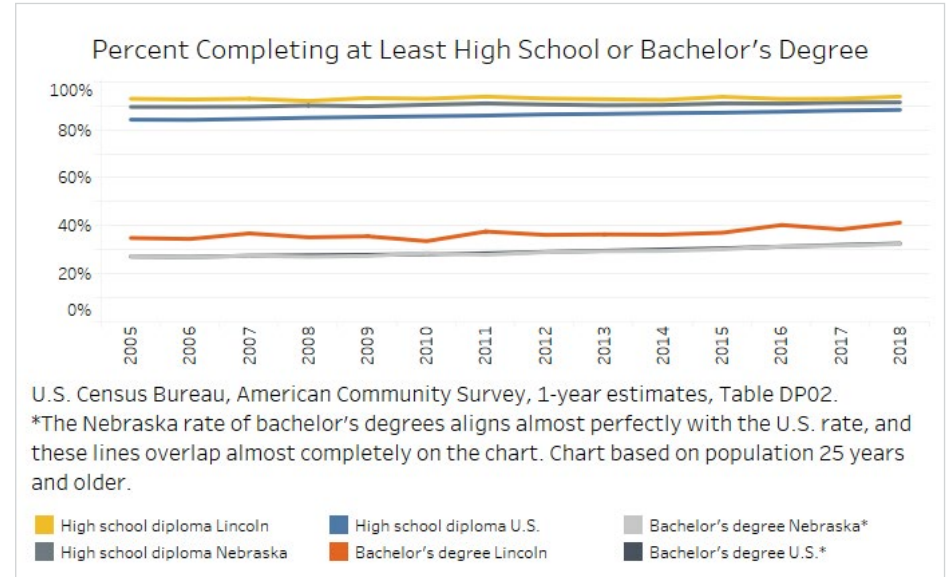


Figure 77

- In 2018 in Lincoln, 94% of the population had a high school diploma. This compares favorably to:
 - 91% for Nebraska
 - 88% nationally
- Likewise, 41% of Lincoln residents had a bachelor's degree or higher, compared to:
 - 32% for Nebraska
 - 33% nationally

Educational Attainment by Race/Ethnicity

Educational attainment varies by race and ethnicity

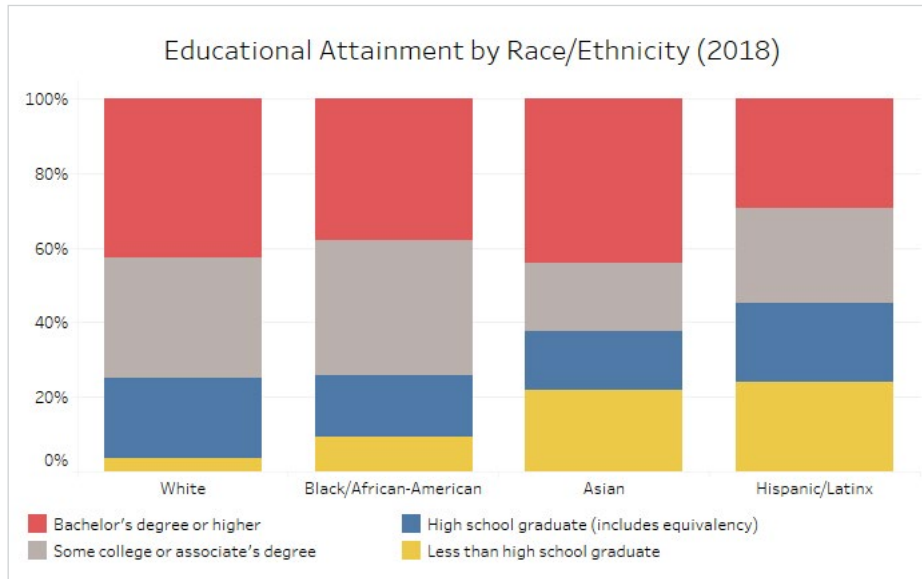


Figure 78

Educational attainment varies by race/ethnicity.

- Whites have the lowest proportion of those achieving, at most, a high school diploma or equivalency.
- Blacks/African-Americans and Whites have the highest proportion of individuals who have some college, but no degree.
- The Hispanic/Latinx population has the highest proportion of individuals with less than a high school education, and also the smallest proportion of those having received a bachelor's degree or higher.

Education Notes

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2. Step Up to Quality Child Care Act, Nebraska Revised Statute 71-1961.
3. Lesnick, J., Goerge, R. M., Smithgall, C., & Gwynne, J. (2010). Reading on grade level in third grade: How is it related to high school performance and college enrollment? Chicago, IL: Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago.
4. Fiester, L. (2013). Early warning confirmed: A research update on third-grade reading. Baltimore, MD: Annie E. Casey Foundation.
5. Lesnick, et al., 2010.
6. In general, students are eligible for free lunch if their household income is less than 130% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, and eligible for reduced lunch if their household income is less than 185% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. In the 2018-19 school year, students in a family of four with a household income less than \$32,630 would be eligible for free lunch, and those with a household income less than \$46,435 would be eligible for reduced lunch. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service. (2018). Child nutrition programs: Income eligibility guidelines. Federal Register/Vol. 83, No. 89/Tuesday, May 8, 2018. Retrieved 11.10.2019 from <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2018-05-08/pdf/2018-09679.pdf>
7. Entwisle, D. R., & Alexander, K. L. (1992). Summer setback: Race, poverty, school composition, and mathematics achievement in the first two years of school. *American Sociological Review*, 57(1), 72-84. doi: 10.2307/2096145
8. Hernandez, D. J. (2011). Double jeopardy: How third-grade reading skills and poverty influence high school graduation. Baltimore, MD: Annie E. Casey Foundation.
9. This is the Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate for the nation, considered the most accurate estimate of four year graduation rates. McFarland, J., Hussar, B., Zhang, J., Wang, X., Wang, K., Hein, S., Diliberti, M., Forrest Cataldi, E., Bullock Mann, F., and Barmer, A. (2019). *The Condition of Education 2019* (NCES 2019-144). U.S. Department of
10. Education. Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics. Retrieved 11.12.2019 from <https://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2019144>.
11. A 100% graduation rate is unlikely, in part because some special education students continue to receive educational services beyond four years of high school, some students graduate but in more than four years, and due to student mobility out of districts and state.



Health

It is widely known that **Americans' health status has declined**. Lincoln, like the U.S., is experiencing increasing rates of obesity, diabetes, physical inactivity, heart disease deaths, and other indicators. Lincoln, however, still has lower rates than the U.S. as a whole on many measures.

In Lincoln, there are **large geographic disparities in a number of health measures**, such as medical care, youth fitness, tobacco use, and overall life expectancy.

In sum, Lincoln's overall health is deteriorating, but not as rapidly as the U.S. as a whole. Both Lincoln and the United States have much ground to regain in reversing current poor health trends.

Health Risk Factors

Adult chronic health factors are better than the U.S. as a whole

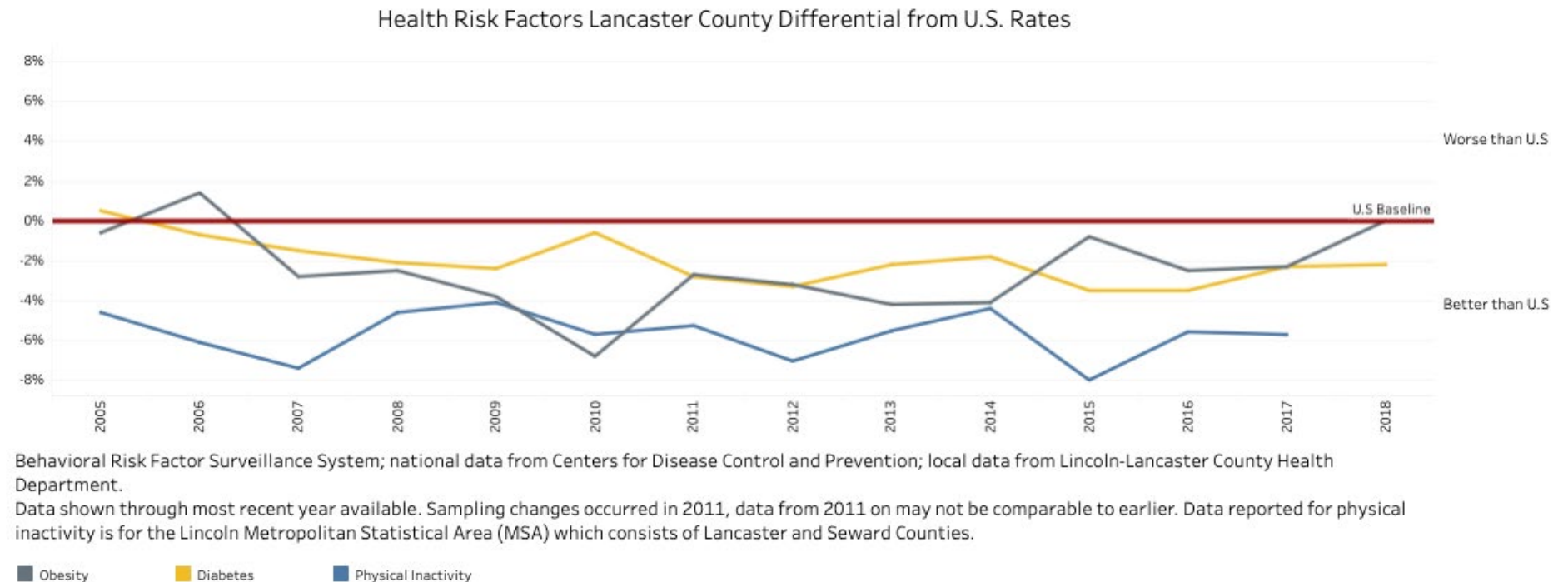


Figure 79

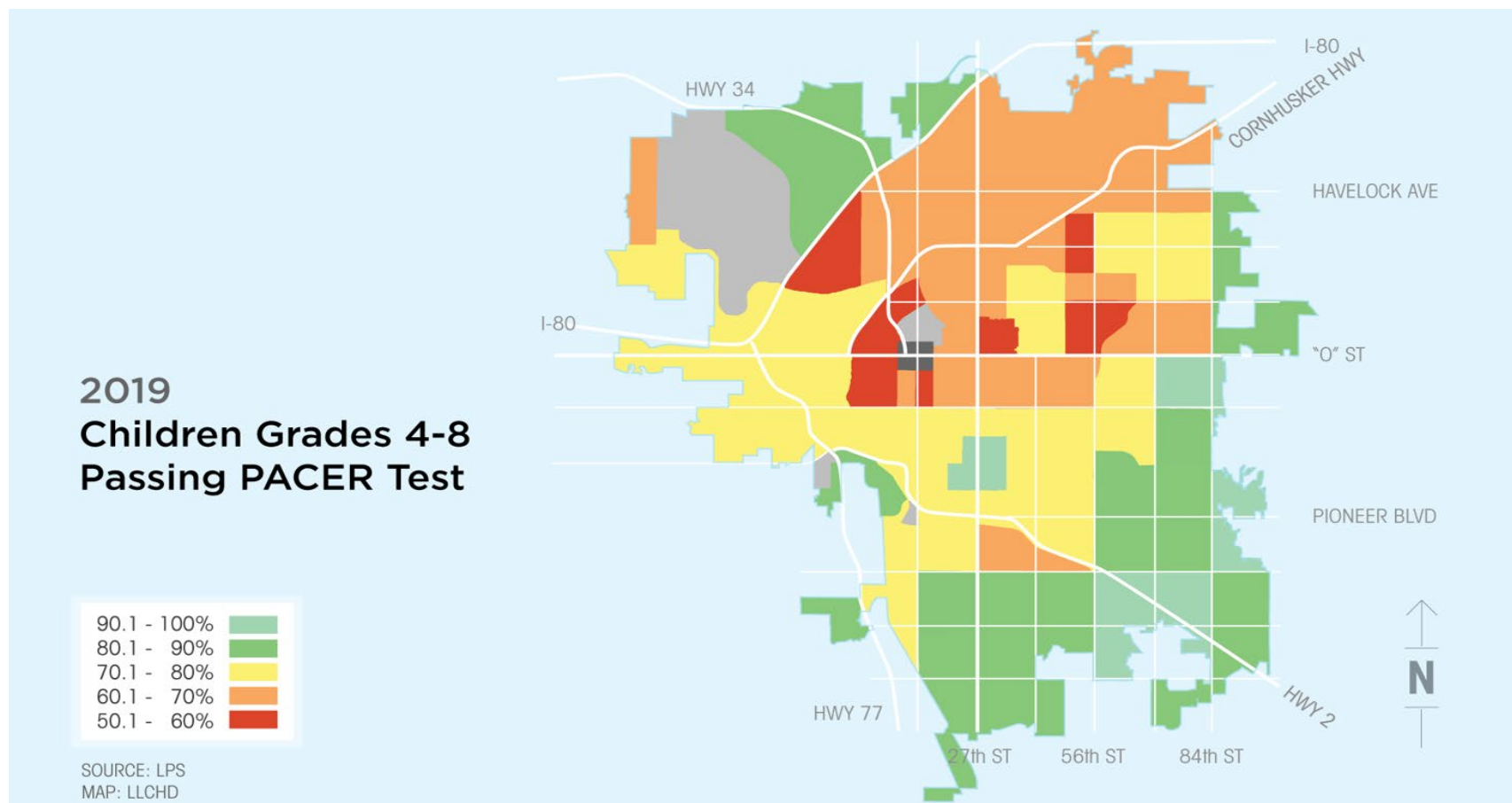
Of the ten leading causes of death in the United States, seven are chronic diseases,¹ and almost half of all Americans live with at least one chronic illness.² Underlying many chronic health conditions are risk factors such as tobacco use and exposure, physical inactivity, and poor nutrition. Engaging in healthy behaviors greatly reduces the risk for illness and death due to chronic diseases.

- Lancaster County’s obesity rate has increased 30% since 2005, a greater increase than the U.S. increase (27%).
- Since 2007, Lancaster County’s obesity rate³ had been lower than the national rate, but in 2018 mirrors the national rate.

- Lancaster County’s diabetes rate⁴ has fluctuated, and has generally been lower than the national rate.
- The physical inactivity⁵ rate in the Lancaster and Seward counties has been lower than the national rate in the past several years.

Youth Fitness by Geography

Lincoln's youth fitness rate varies by geography



Map 2 - Courtesy of Community Health Endowment, *Place Matters Report 2019*.

The Community Health Endowment Place Matters 2019 report maps the percentage of children grades 4–8 who passed the Fitnessgram PACER test measuring aerobic capacity. Children living in many areas of Lincoln did not meet the Lincoln Public Schools’ goal of an average 80% pass rate.

Chlamydia

Lincoln’s rate of chlamydia cases is increasing

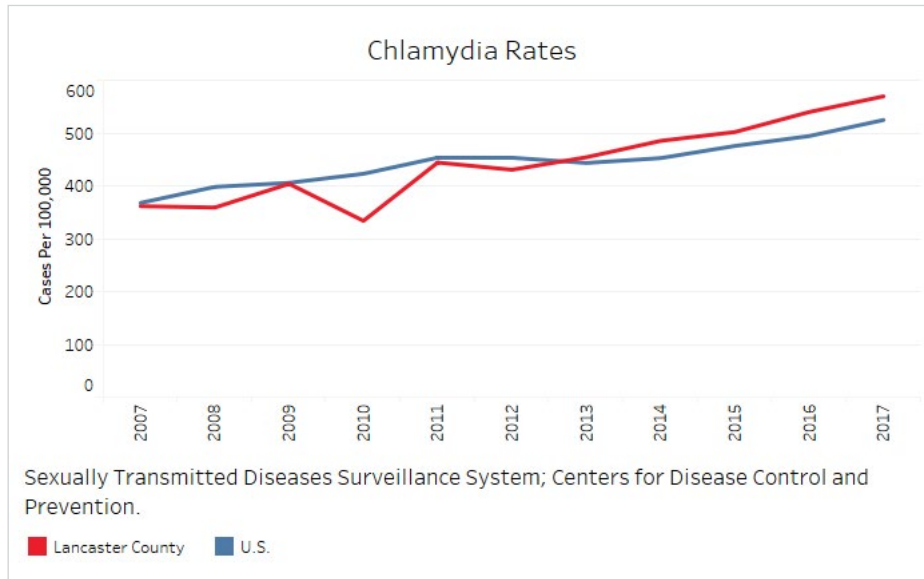


Figure 80

- The rate of chlamydia has been increasing nationally and locally.
- The Lancaster County rate has been higher than the national rate since 2013.

Sexually Transmitted Diseases

Lancaster County sexually transmitted diseases diverge from national rates

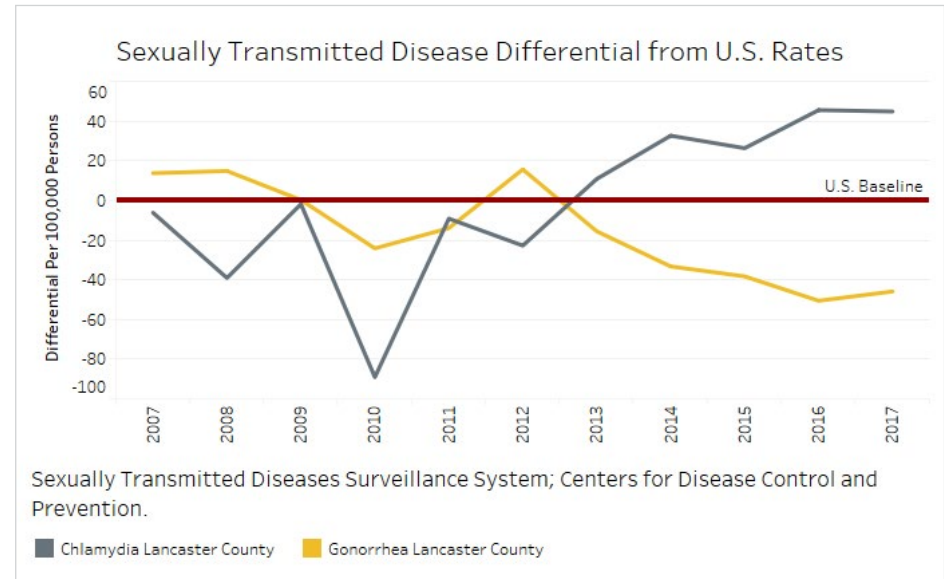
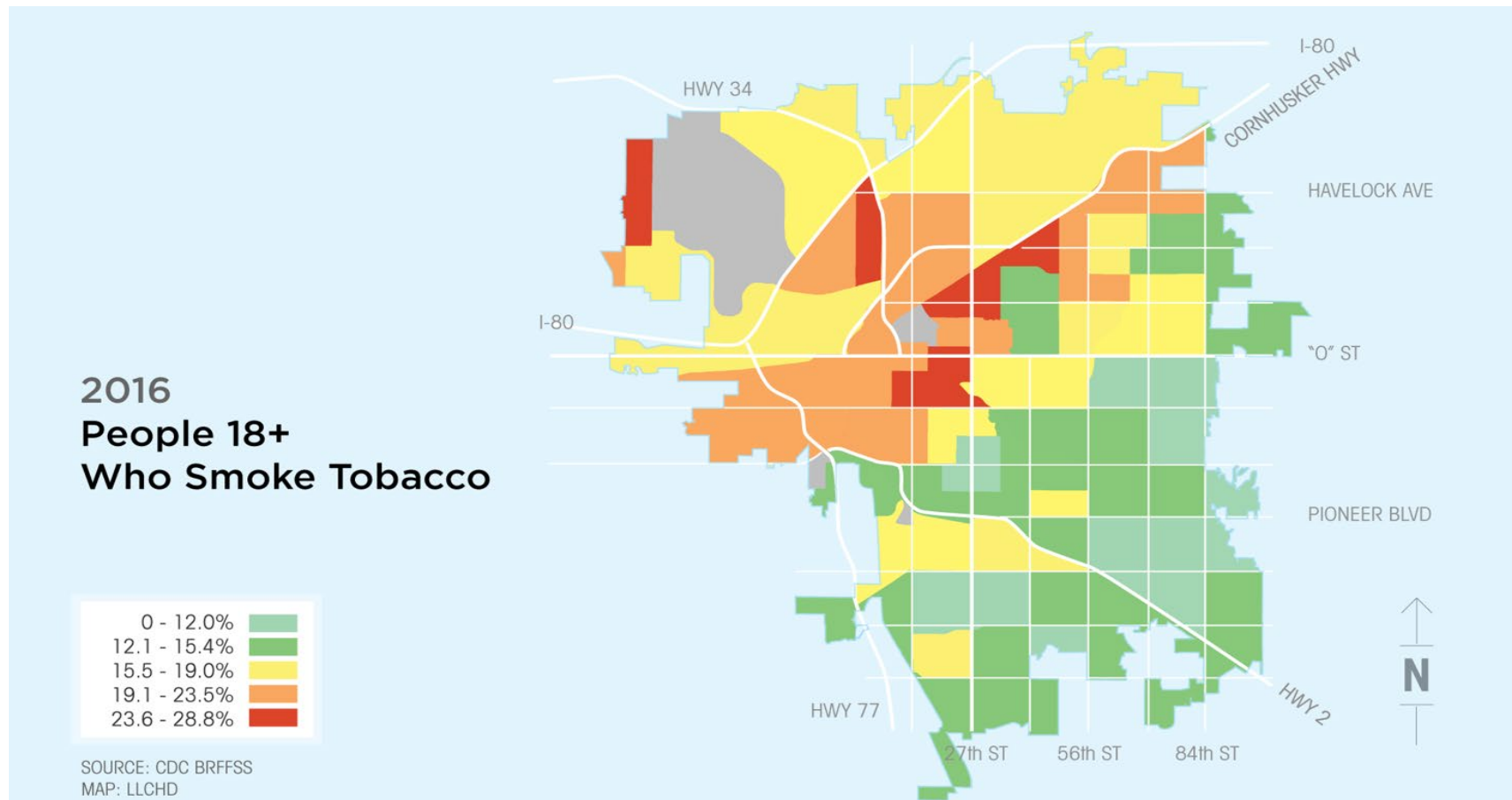


Figure 81

- Lancaster County’s chlamydia rate exceeds that of the U.S.
- Lancaster County’s gonorrhea rate is lower than that of the U.S.

Tobacco Use by Geography

Rate of adults who smoke tobacco varies throughout Lincoln neighborhoods



Map 3 - Courtesy of Community Health Endowment, *Place Matters Report 2019*.

The Community Health Endowment Place Matters 2019 report maps the percentage of adults who smoke tobacco. In 2016, there were 8 Census Tracts reporting that more than 23.6% of residents smoked.

Cancer Deaths

Lancaster County's rate of deaths from cancer is lower than the U.S. overall

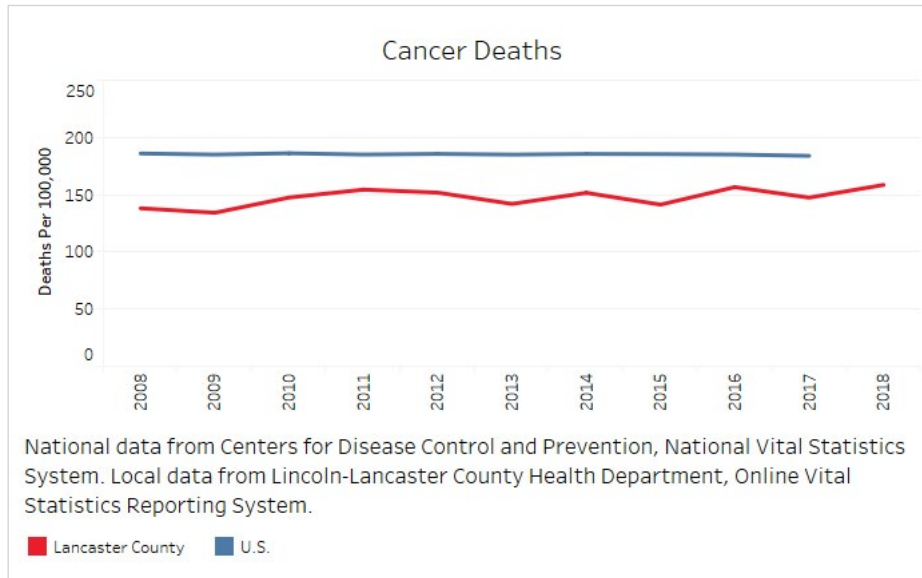


Figure 82

An indicator of health in a community is the number of individuals who die due to chronic diseases.

- Lancaster County trails the U.S. in deaths due to cancer.

Heart Disease Deaths

Lancaster County's rate of deaths from heart disease is lower than the U.S. rate

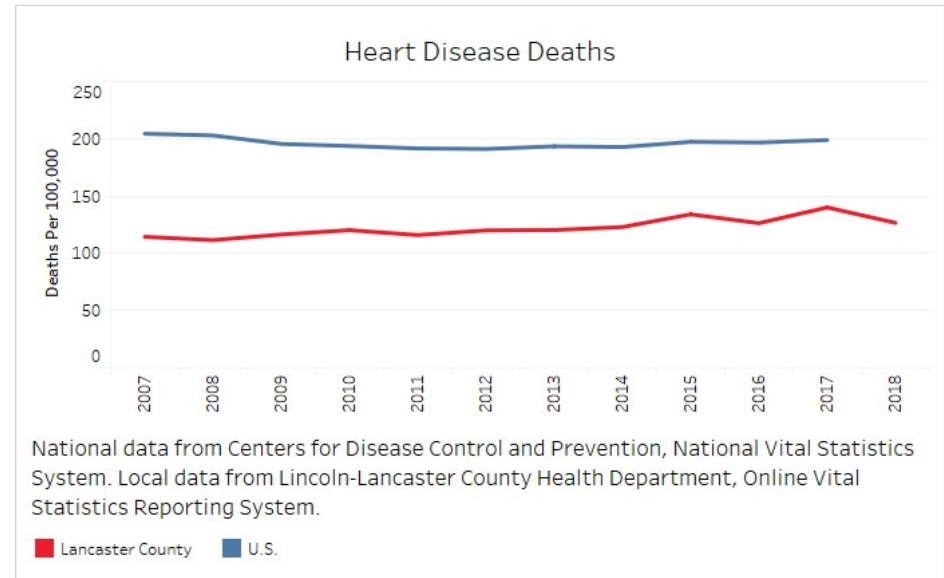


Figure 83

An indicator of health in a community is the number of individuals who die due to chronic diseases.

- Lancaster County trails the U.S. in the rate of deaths due to heart disease.

Diabetes Deaths

Deaths due to diabetes trail the U.S. rate

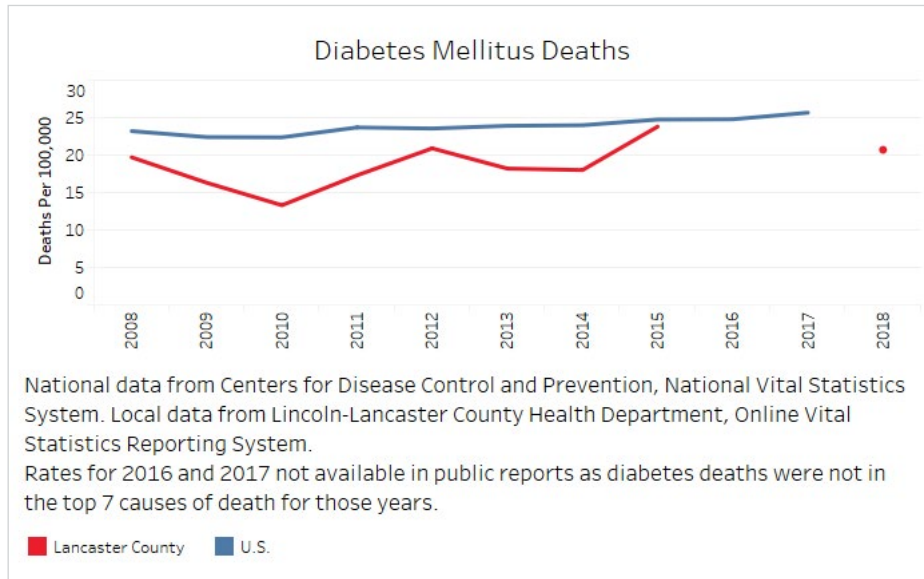
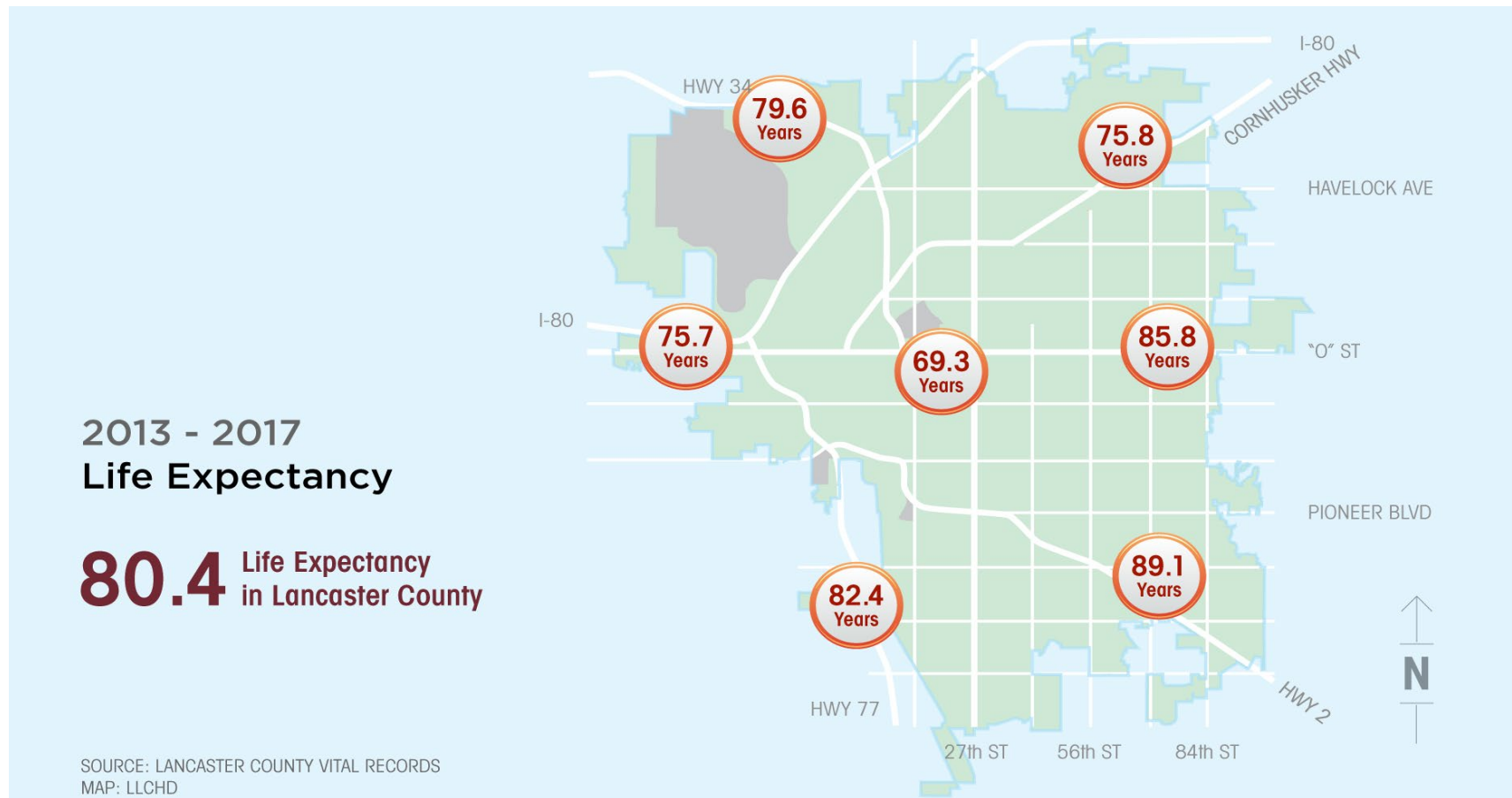


Figure 84

- Lancaster County has trailed the U.S. in deaths due to diabetes since 2008.

Life Expectancy

Life expectancy varies throughout Lincoln neighborhoods



Map 4 - Courtesy of Community Health Endowment, *Place Matters Report 2019*.

The Community Health Endowment Place Matters 2019 report maps the probable age a baby born this year will reach before dying. The expectancy calculation is based on mortality patterns of the population. In Lincoln, life expectancy ranges from 69.3 years (central Lincoln) to 89.1 years (southeast Lincoln).

Low Birth Weight

Lancaster County has a lower percentage of low birth weight infants

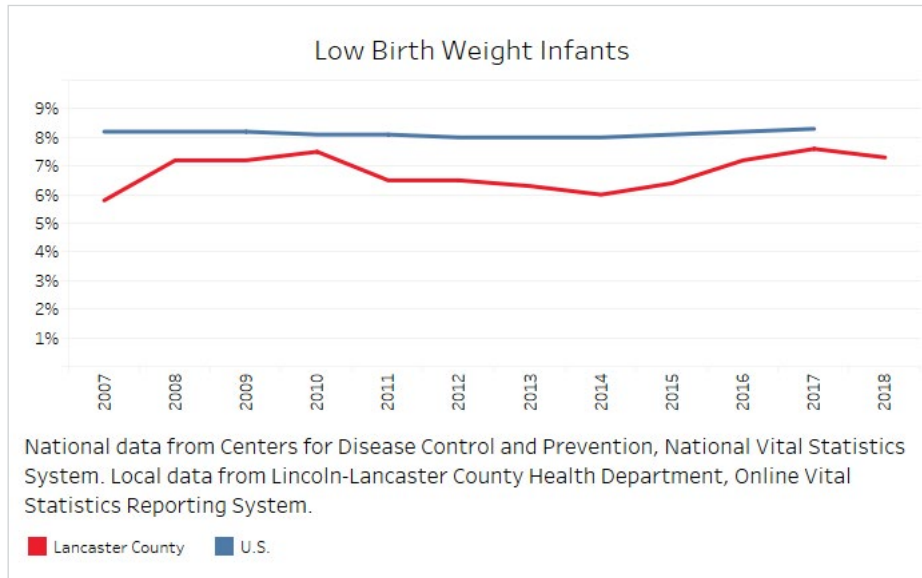


Figure 85

Children who are born at a low birth weight (less than 5 pounds, 8 ounces) have an increased risk of long-term disability and impaired development. Low birth weight may indicate inadequate prenatal care.

- Lancaster County has a lower percentage of low birth weight infants than does the U.S. overall.

Births to Teen Mothers

Births to Lincoln teen mothers is the same as the national rate

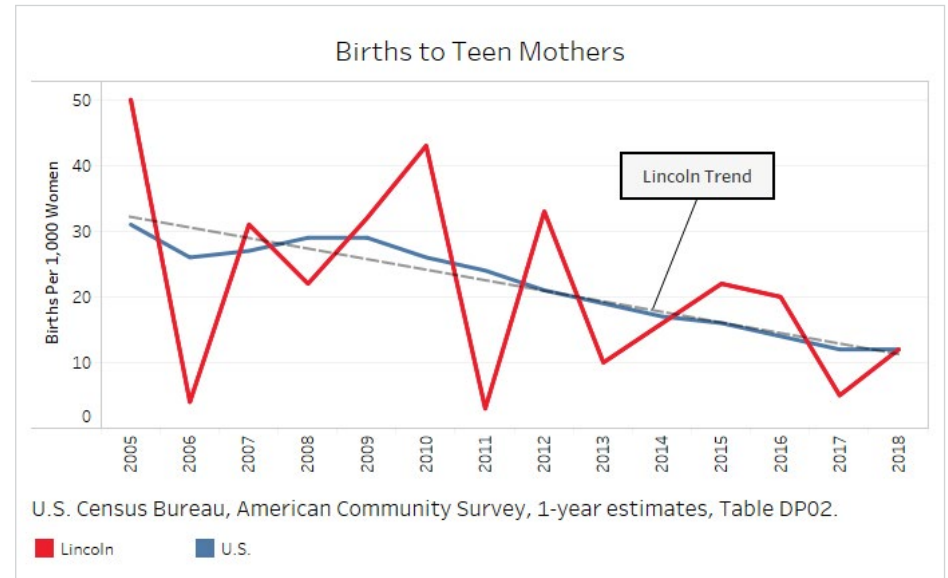


Figure 86

Teenage girls who give birth are more likely to drop out of high school and more likely to be in poverty. Research suggests that children born to teen mothers are more likely to be low birth weight, have long-term health problems, and have worse educational outcomes; these issues are likely the result of associated socio-economic (e.g. poverty) and cultural issues rather than the actual fact of young motherhood.⁶

- Both Lincoln and national rates of births to teen mothers have declined in the past decade.
- In Lincoln, the rate of births to teen mothers (aged 15 to 19 years of age) has fluctuated, some years much higher than the national rate and other years much lower.
- Lincoln's average rate since 2005 mirrors the national rate (22 births per 1,000 women 15 to 19 years of age).

Mental Health Days

Poor mental health days have been level

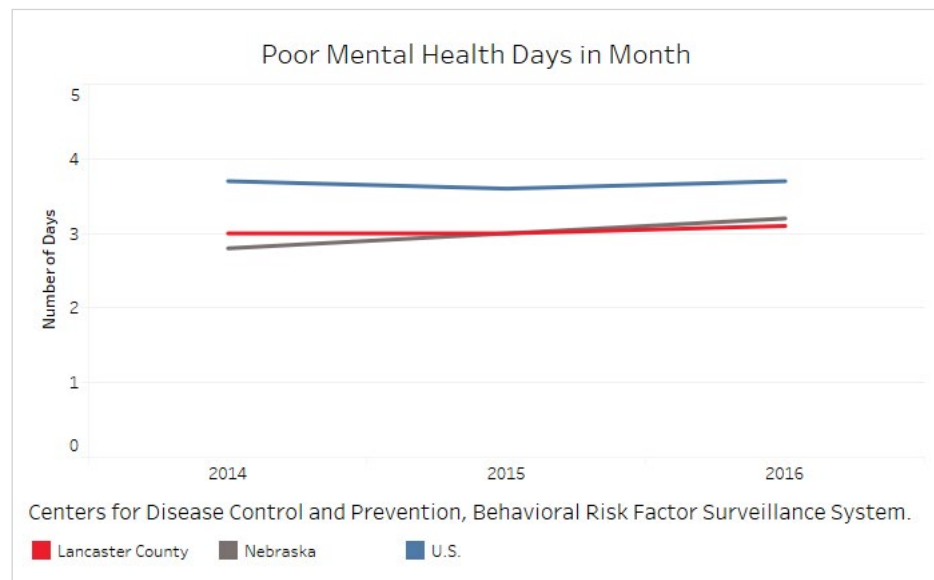


Figure 87

Mental health is a key component of overall well-being. Mental illness is the leading cause of disability in the United States. Nationally, between 5% to 7% of adults experience a serious mental illness (e.g., schizophrenia, manic-depressive disorder, and severe depressive disorders).⁷

- In Lancaster County, residents report experiencing fewer poor mental health days in a month than U.S. residents overall.

Police Mental Health Investigations

Police investigations involving mental health needs have increased by 44%

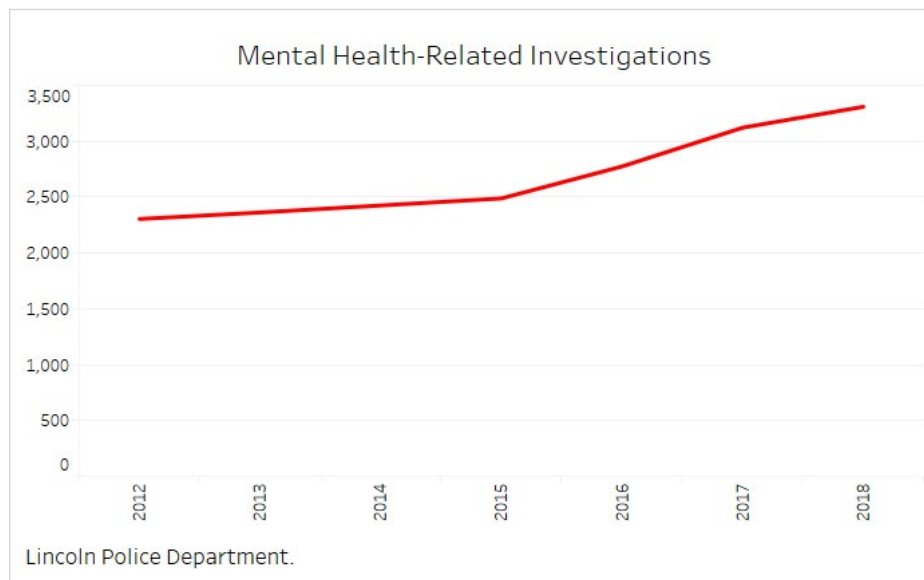


Figure 88

The Lincoln Police Department has officers trained to respond to calls involving mental health issues. When a person is located who may need mental health services, and they are not dangerous, they are provided information about available services. Their contact information is also provided to a peer support program that follows up on all contacts.

- The number of investigations involving mental health needs has increased 44% since 2012.

Suicide

Lincoln Police respond to one call per day related to suicide

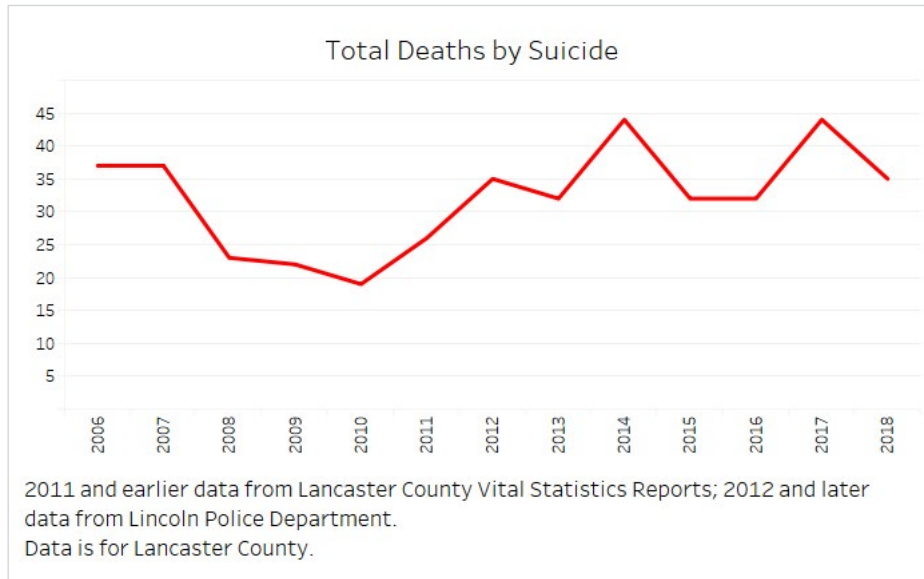


Figure 89

- Lincoln police respond to an average of one call per day related to suicide.
- Since 2006, Lincoln has averaged 32 suicides per year.
- Most suicides (83%) over the past five years have been among working age adults (age 19 to 64).
- Suicide is the 9th leading causes of death in Lancaster County.⁸

Youth Marijuana Use

Youth drug use rates are declining in Lancaster County and the U.S.

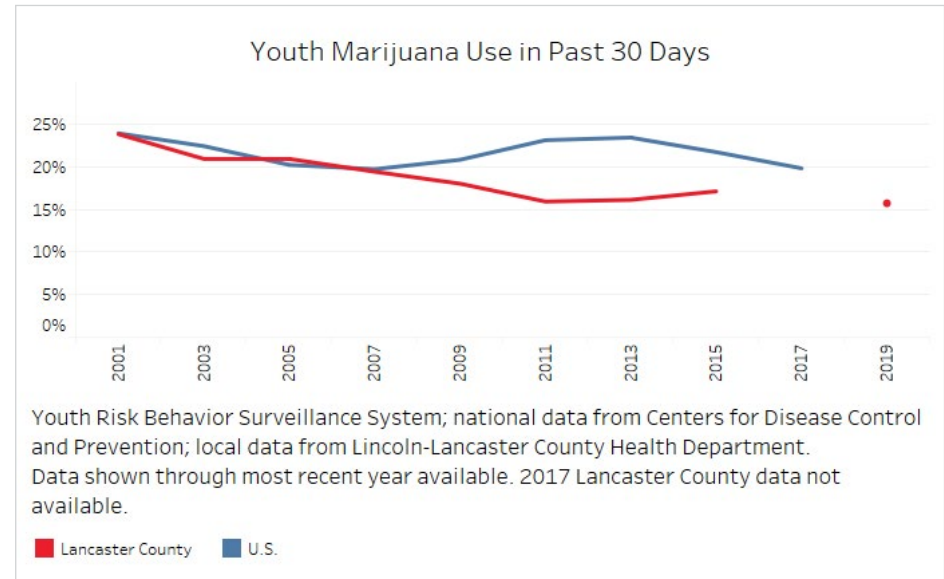


Figure 90

- Illicit drug and alcohol use by youth increase their risk for injury, violence, HIV infection, and other diseases,⁹ and is related to lower academic achievement.¹⁰
- Since 2001, Lancaster County has seen a 34% decline in marijuana use among teens. 23.8% of students reported 30-day marijuana use in 2005, dropping to 15.7% in 2015.
 - Marijuana use is lower among teens in Lancaster County than nationally, though comparable annual data have not been available since 2015.

Youth Alcohol and Cigarette Use

Youth alcohol and cigarette use rates are declining in Lancaster County and the U.S.

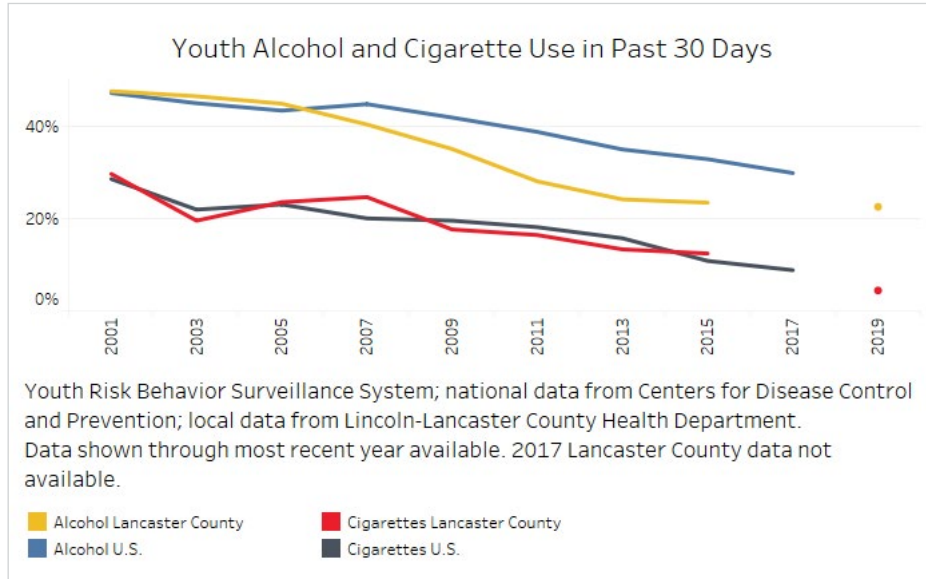


Figure 91

Alcohol use is lower among Lancaster County teens than nationally.

- Alcohol use among teens in Lancaster County has declined 53% since 2001.
 - 47.5% of students reported 30-day alcohol use in 2005, dropping to 22.5% in 2019.

Teen cigarette use mirrors the national rate.

- Cigarette use among teens in Lancaster County has declined 85% since 2001.
 - 29.6% of students reported 30-day cigarette use in 2001, dropping to 4.4% in 2019.

Police Alcohol/Drug Related Incidents

Almost one-fifth of police responses involve alcohol and/or drugs

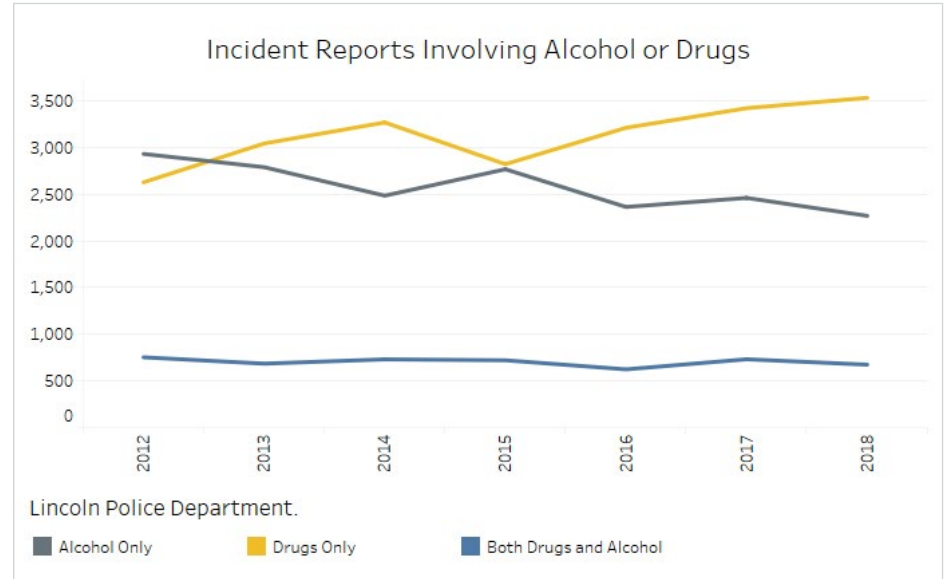


Figure 92

- 18.7% of all police responses are for incidents involving alcohol and/or drugs (6,474 calls in 2018).

Last year when looking at all police incidents:

- Drugs are 10% of all calls
- Alcohol are 7% of all calls
- Both alcohol and drugs are 2% of all calls

Emergency Protective Custody

Mental health crisis services use is declining, but users often repeat crisis services

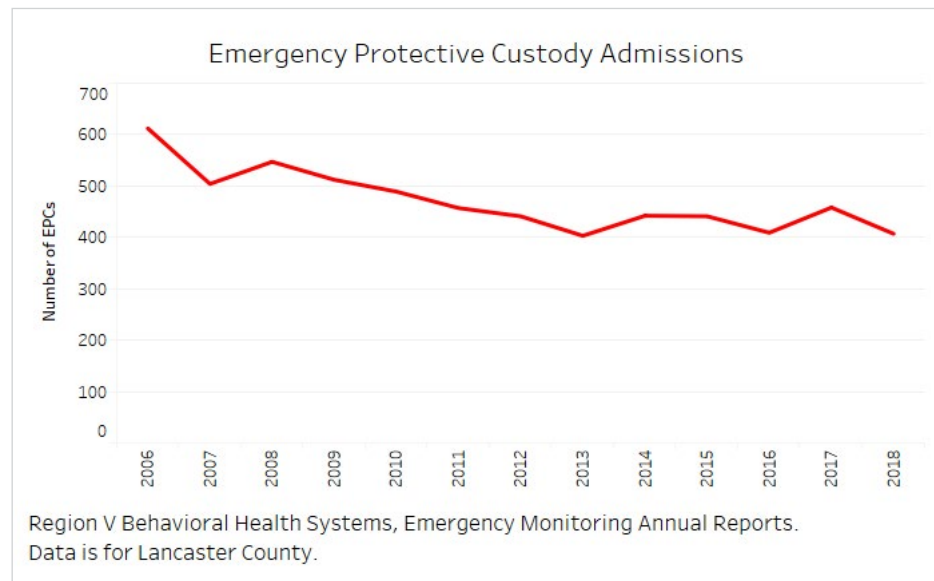


Figure 93

Through Emergency Protective Custody (EPC), law enforcement may take a person into involuntary custody who is mentally ill and dangerous to themselves or others, and who does not seek voluntary treatment when encouraged to do so by officers.

- The number of EPC admissions has declined 33% since 2006.
 - In 2005, police awareness training taught how to refer to services and offer the opportunity to go voluntarily.
- Approximately 40% of those admitted have previously been EPC'd sometime after 2012.
 - For those with repeat admissions, the majority (63%) return within 13 months.

Civil Protective Custody

Substance abuse crisis services use is declining

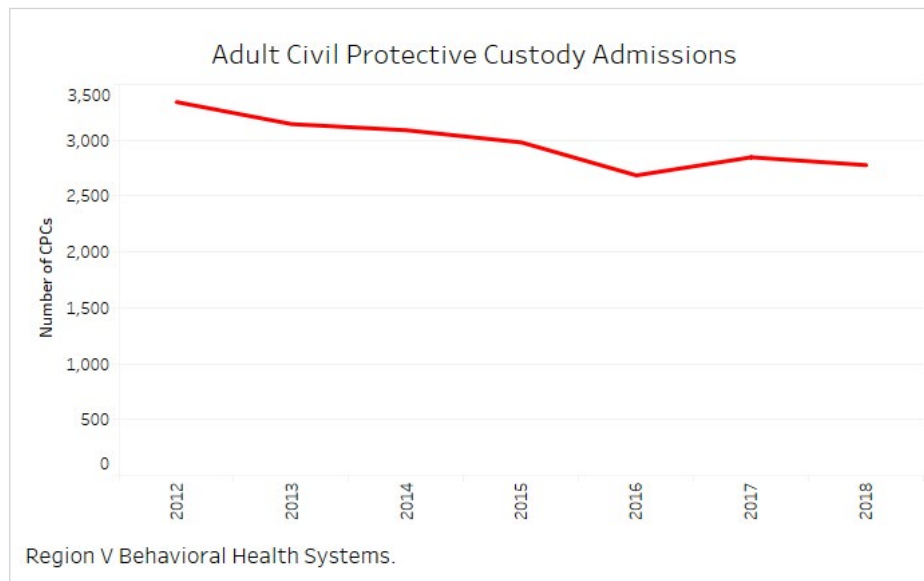


Figure 94

Civil Protective Custody (CPC) is used by law enforcement to detain a person who appears intoxicated and dangerous to himself, others, or is incapacitated on public property.

- Since 2012, the number of adult CPC admissions per year has decreased 16.9%.

Behavioral Health Admissions

Substance abuse disorders are the most common diagnosis for persons entering behavioral health services

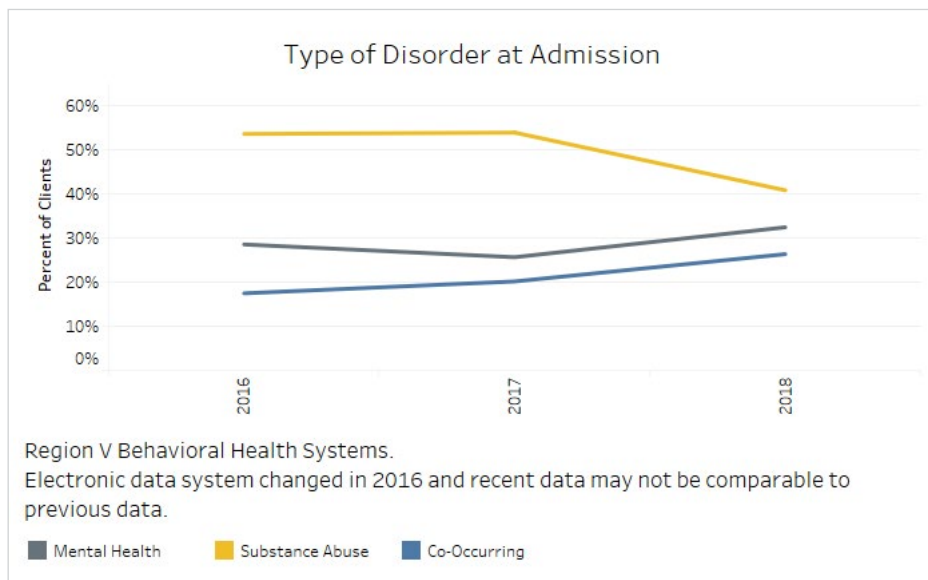


Figure 95

The state of Nebraska and local communities are responsible for delivering services to persons with severe and persistent behavioral health needs who are unable to pay for them. In Lincoln, Nebraska-funded services are paid for by the State of Nebraska, Lancaster County, behavioral health providers' charitable donations or other underwriting, and donors. Persons receiving Nebraska-funded care are only a subset of all individuals receiving services. For example, some persons pay for services through other public programs, such as Medicaid. Others may pay for services through other public or private insurance programs, or may self-fund care. In Lincoln, many persons with severe and persistent behavioral health needs cycle between Nebraska-funded and Medicaid-funded care.

When persons enter into any type of service, they are admitted. People may be admitted to multiple services simultaneously. Persons admitted may have a primary diagnosis of mental health disorder, substance abuse disorder, or co-occurring disorder. A co-occurring disorder is one that involves both mental health and substance abuse. When individuals have a co-occurring disorder, treatments that address both are associated with lower costs and better outcomes.¹¹

- Among persons receiving Nebraska-funded services in 2018:
 - 41% had a substance abuse disorder
 - 33% had a mental health disorder
 - 26% had a co-occurring disorder

Behavioral Health Housing

Housing rates vary among those with behavioral health disorders after receiving services

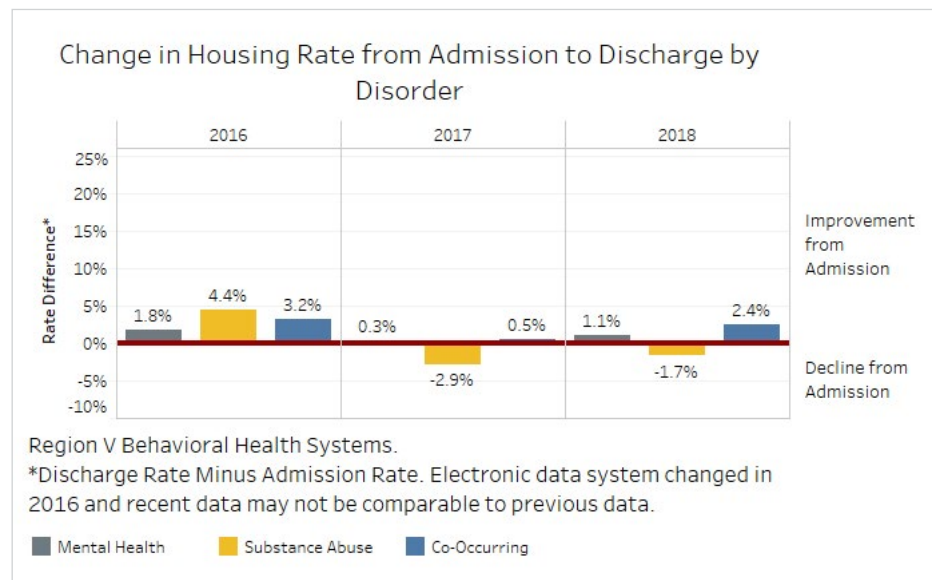


Figure 96

Persons with severe mental illness comprise a significant percentage of the homeless population.¹² In addition to treatment services, a wide array of agencies provide other supportive community services to aid those with severe and persistent behavioral health needs in Lincoln.

- Over the years, small gains have been made in housing homeless behavioral health clients.

Behavioral Health Employment

Employment rates increase among those with behavioral health disorders after receiving services

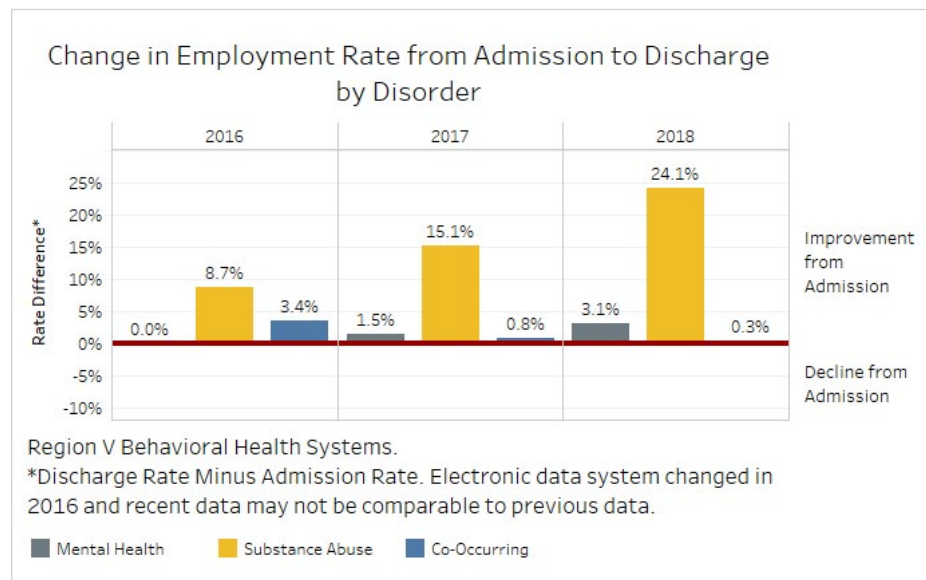


Figure 97

Persons with severe mental illness comprise a significant percentage of the unemployed populations.¹³ In addition to treatment services, a wide array of agencies provide other supportive community services to aid those with severe and persistent behavioral health needs in Lincoln.

- Persons receiving behavioral health services find employment.
- Employment of persons with substance abuse issues almost doubled between admission (26% employed) and discharge (50% employed) in 2018.

Health Notes Cont.

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2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (Updated October 25, 2013). *Preventing chronic diseases and reducing health risk factors*. Retrieved May 11, 2017 from: <https://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dch/programs/healthycommunitiesprogram/overview/diseasesandrisk.htm>
3. Obesity is defined as having a Body Mass Index of 30 to 99.8 and is calculated based on responses to questions about height and weight. Lancaster County data comes from Lincoln-Lancaster Health Department and is from a geographic over-sample of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention national sample for the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS). Over-sampled data is weighted in the same manner as the national data. National data come from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention national sample.
4. Diabetes rates are based on individual reports that they have been diagnosed with diabetes. Lancaster County data comes from Lincoln-Lancaster Health Department and is from a geographic over-sample of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention national sample for the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS). Over-sampled data is weighted in the same manner as the national data. National data come from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention national sample.
5. Physical inactivity is based on persons responding "no" to the question: *During the past month, other than your regular job, did you participate in any physical activities or exercises such as running, calisthenics, golf, gardening, or walking for exercise?* Lancaster County and national data are from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS). Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department does not over-sample this question.
6. Geronimus, A. T., & Korenman, S. (1993). Maternal youth or family background? On the health disadvantages of infants with teenage mothers. *American Journal of Epidemiology*, 137(2), 213-225.
7. Wang, P. S., Demler, O., & Kessler, R. C. (2002). Adequacy of treatment for serious mental illness in the United States. *American Journal of Public Health*, 92(1), 92-98. doi: 10.2105/ajph.92.1.92
8. R. Kakarlapudi , Lincoln Lancaster County Health Department, November 15, 2019.

Health Notes Cont.

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11. Minkoff, K. (2001). Developing standards of care for individuals with co-occurring psychiatric and substance use disorders. *Psychiatric Services*, 52(5), 597-599.
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Safety and Security

People want to live in communities where they feel physically free from harm. Harm may occur through intentional victimization, as well as through accidents and health crises. For the third consecutive year, the number of violent-crime victims in the U.S. has increased, though the portion who have been victims of serious crimes has decreased.¹

Lincoln has less crime than other similarly-sized communities. Persons living in Lincoln report feeling safe most or all of the time, traffic crash injuries have been low for the past decade, and medical and fire services are effective. However, the percentage of **children removed from their homes for their safety remains higher than nationwide.** Lincoln has also seen an **increase in the juvenile arrest rates for drug violations, and for property crimes,** when compared to the national rates.

Crime Rate

Lincoln's crime rate remains low

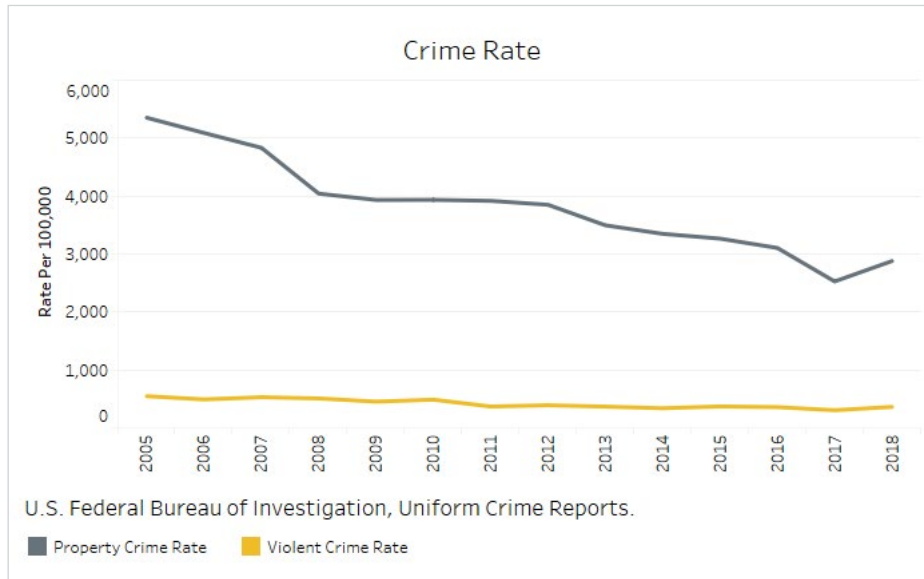


Figure 98

In Lincoln, property crimes are the most reported offenses, but have declined 27% in the past decade.

- Burglary comprises a small portion of property crime, but is a good proxy for property crime. The City of Lincoln has regularly met its goal of having fewer than 755 burglaries per 100,000 persons.
- The lowest rate of crime in Lincoln is for violent crime and it has declined 20% in the past decade (from 453 offenses per 100,000 persons in 2009 to 362 offenses per 100,000 persons in 2018).
- The City of Lincoln has regularly met its goal of having fewer than 555 violent crimes per 100,000 persons.

Crime Rate Comparison

Lincoln's crime rate is lower than similar size cities

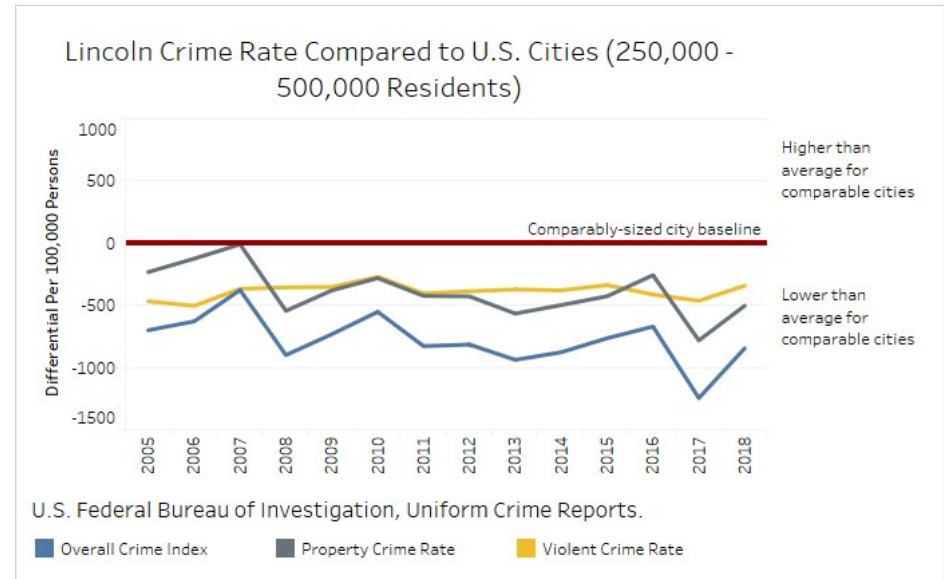


Figure 99

Lincoln's property and violent crime rates have consistently been lower than the rates of other cities across the United States with populations between 250,000 and 500,000 persons.

- Over the past decade, Lincoln's property crime rate dropped from 91% of the rate of comparably-sized cities to 85%.
- Over the past decade, Lincoln's violent crime rate has averaged 50% of the violent crime rate of other comparably-sized cities.

Juvenile Arrest Comparison

Lincoln's juvenile arrest rates for drug violations and property crimes are increasing

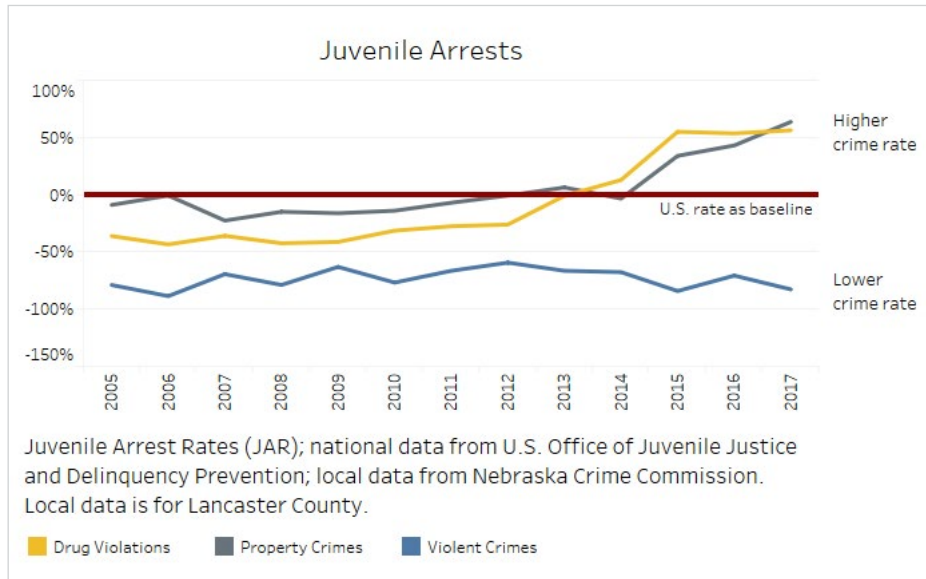


Figure 100

- Lincoln's juvenile drug arrest rate was previously lower than the national rate, but has been increasing in the past decade (since 2009), and is now 56% higher than the national rate.
- Although property crimes committed by juveniles have been decreasing annually in recent years,² since 2014 Lincoln has experienced an increase in the property crime arrest rate.³
- Lincoln's juvenile violent crime arrest rates have been on average 72% lower than the national rate over the past decade.

Feeling Safe and Secure

People in Lincoln report feeling safe

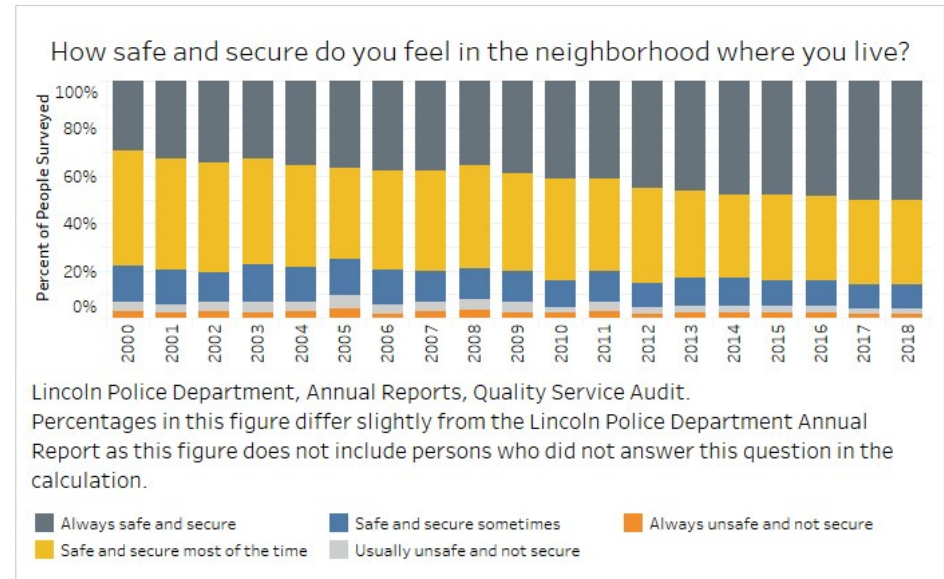


Figure 101

- The Lincoln Police Department, through a contract with Gallup, surveys all individuals who have contact with city police officers.
- In the past decade, 75-85% of respondents have indicated that they feel safe and secure either always or most of the time.
 - Of that group, there has been a steady increase in the percentage of individuals who say they always feel safe and secure (from 39% in 2009 to 50% in 2018).
- The high percentage of feelings of safety and security among this population are particularly notable since the group includes individuals who have had contact with the police department as the result of victimization.

Traffic Crash Injuries

Lincoln is meeting its goal to keep traffic crash injuries low

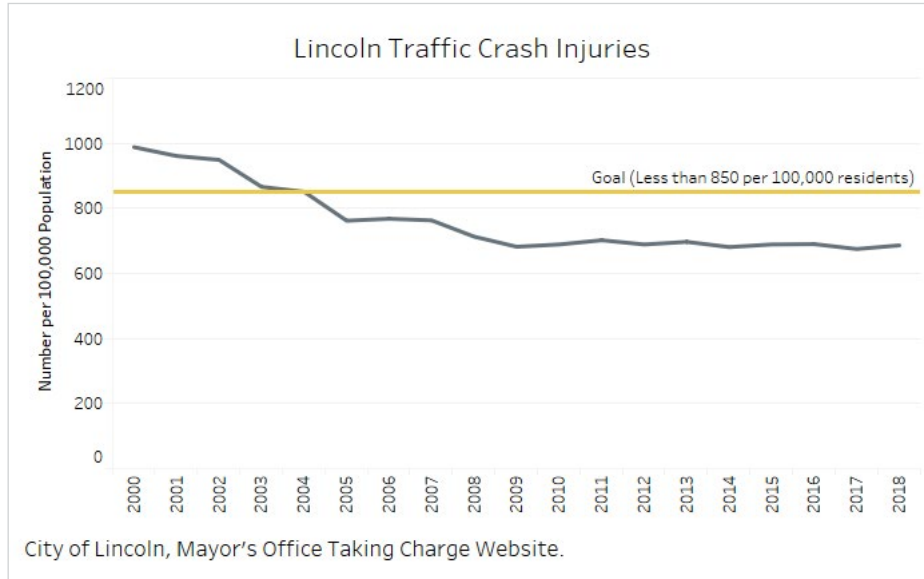


Figure 102

The rate of traffic crash-related injuries has averaged 688 injuries per 100,000 persons in the past decade.

- Since 2005, the rate has not exceeded the City of Lincoln's goal of fewer than 850 injuries per 100,000 persons.

Ambulance Response Time

Medical emergency response trails city's goals

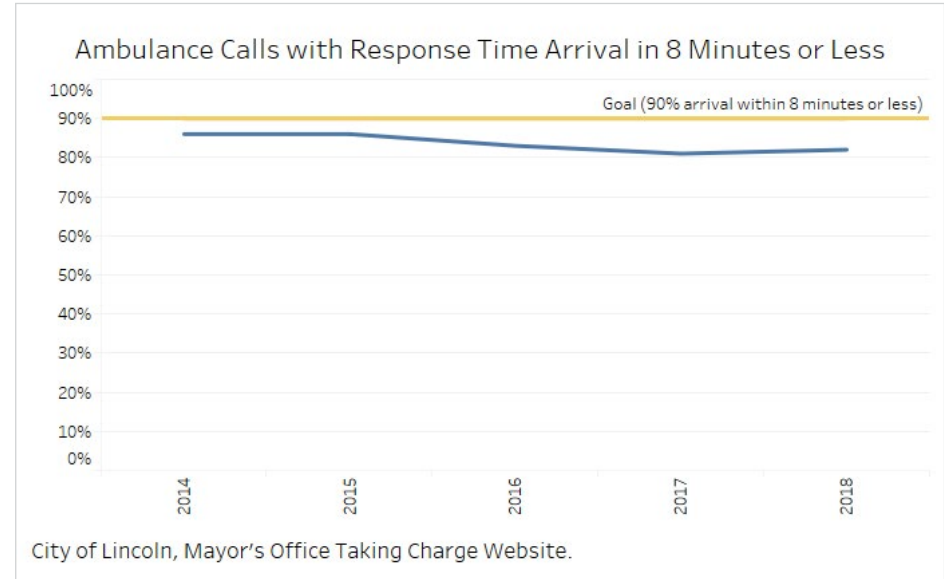


Figure 103

The City of Lincoln's goal is to achieve on-scene arrival of an ambulance in less than 8 minutes after receiving a medical call.

- For the past 5 years, the goal has not been reached.

Property Saved from Fire

Property value saved from fire is high

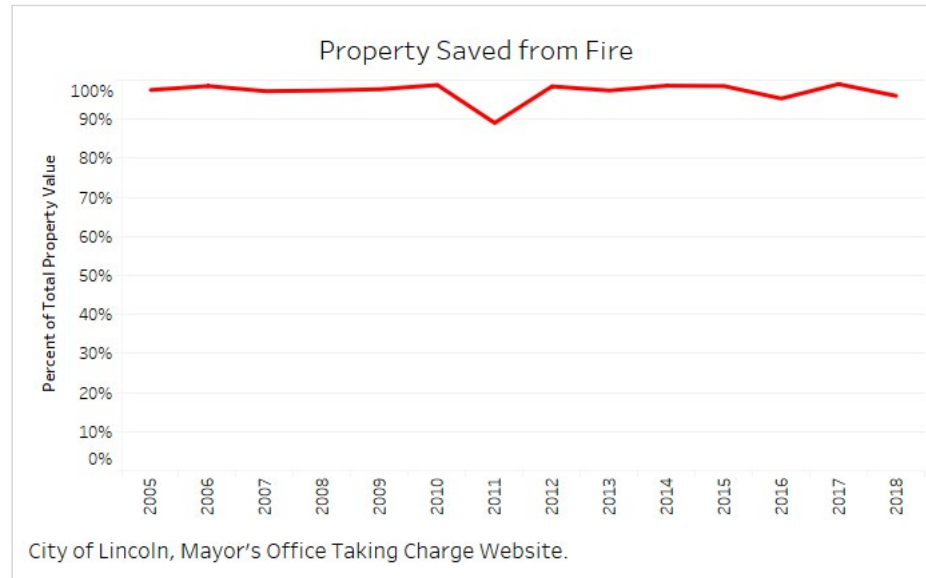


Figure 104

Lincoln Fire and Rescue track the percentage of total property value they save when responding to fires.

- Over the past decade, Lincoln Fire and Rescue saved 97% of property value.
 - The only single year this percentage dropped below 95% was in 2011, when the Lincoln Public Schools' district office was destroyed by fire.

Domestic and Child Violence

Domestic and child violence rates have been steady over the past decade

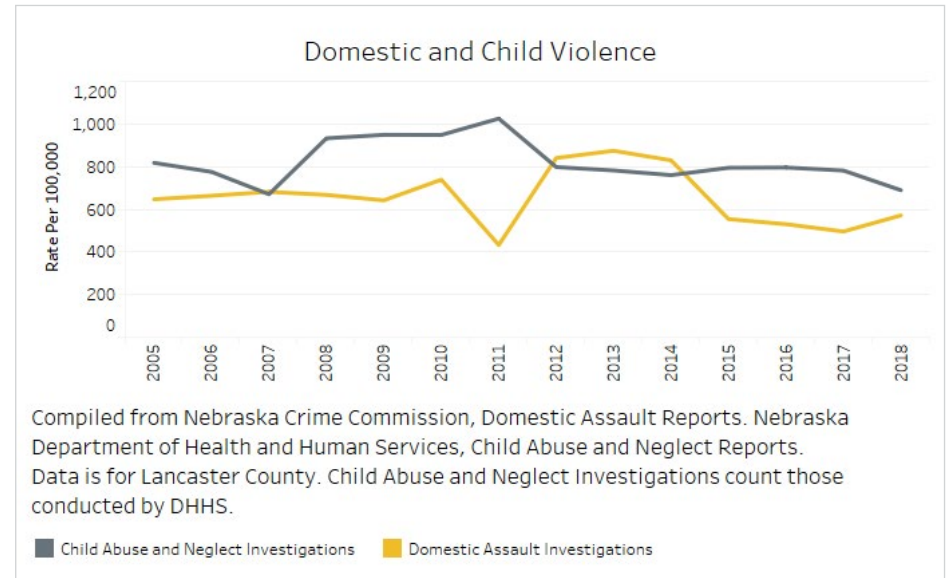


Figure 105

- Lancaster County's rate of child abuse and neglect investigations by Health and Human Services varies from year to year, and had decreased 33% recently from a high in 2011 (from 1,025 investigations per 100,000 persons in 2011 to 689 investigations per 100,000 persons in 2018.)⁴
- The rate of domestic assault investigations also varies from year to year, but overall has trended lower in the past four years.
- Recently, rates of domestic assault investigations have decreased 35% from a high in 2013 (from 874 investigations per 100,000 persons in 2013 to 571 investigations per 100,000 persons in 2018).

Child Out-of-Home Placements

The percentage of children in out-of-home placements has increased in recent years

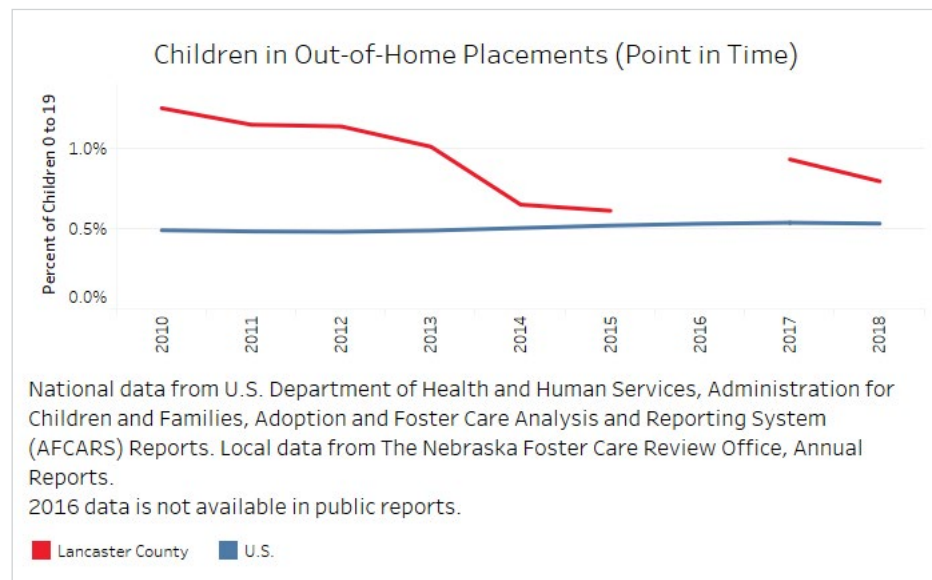


Figure 106

Nebraska's child protective custody system has been widely criticized for the high percentages of children that are placed in out-of-home care (such as foster care).

- In Lancaster County, the percentage of children in foster care continues to be higher than the national rate.^{5, 6}
- Although the percentage of children in out-of-home placement (on a given day through a Point-in-Time Count) is a relatively small percentage of the population of children in Lincoln, the percentage does represent more than 600 children (in 2018, 673 children were in out-of-home placements).

Child Out-of-Home Placement Reasons

Neglect and parent substance abuse are the most common reasons for children to be in out-of-home placements

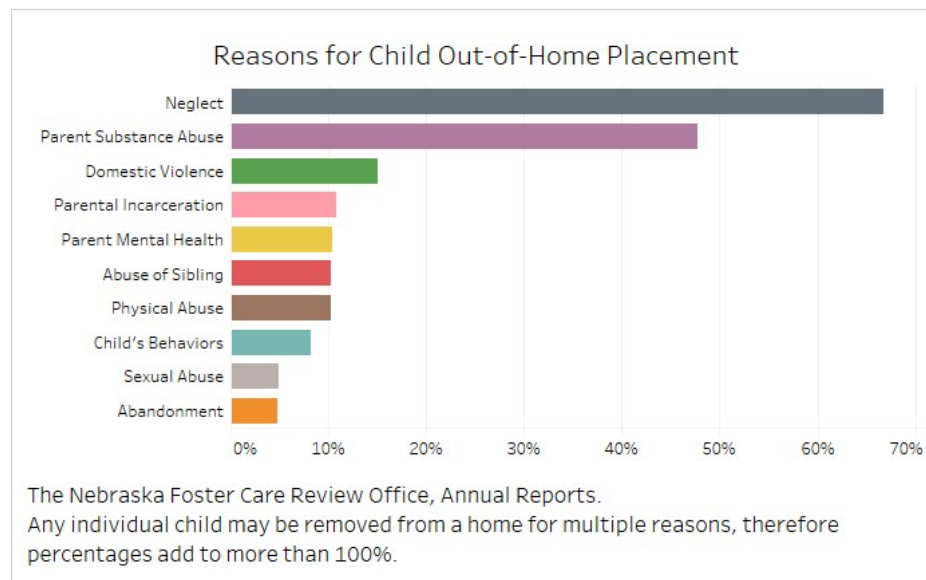


Figure 107

In 2019, there were several reasons children would be in out-of-home placements.

- Neglect was the reason for out-of-home placement for a majority of children.
- Parent substance abuse was a reason for almost half (48%) of out-of-home placements.
- These reasons have been the top two reasons for child out-of-home placements since 2012.

Safety and Security Notes

1. Morgan, R. E. & Oudekerk, B. A. (September 2009). Criminal Victimization, 2018. *Technical Report NCJ 253043*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice.
2. Statistical Briefing Book, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.
3. Although juvenile arrest rates may largely reflect juvenile behavior, many other factors can affect the magnitude of these rates, such as the attitudes of citizens toward crime, the policies of local law enforcement agencies, and the policies of other components of the justice system.
4. Data for domestic violence offenses are not available for only the City of Lincoln, therefore Lancaster County data are used.
5. All data is Point-in-Time. Lancaster County data 2006 through 2009 for December 20; 2011 and later for June 30. National data is for September 30 of each year.
6. These figures exclude children who are removed from homes due to juvenile justice interventions.

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Data Indicators/Sources

As was the case for past Lincoln Vital Signs reports, indicators for this study are measures of the strength and health of our community as well as the challenges. The indicators are meant to:

- **Reflect fundamental interests and concerns of the community, families, and individuals**
- **Serve as reliable sources using valid sampling and measurement approaches**
- **Be available for past years and repeatable for future years**
- **Measure outcomes, rather than inputs or outputs**

For a number of indicators, national, state, peer, or aspirational community data are provided. The authors have noted in various sections of the report where data are lacking for important aspects in our community's life. Data already available from public sources were used. The Appendix provides information about the data sources. Data were selected, where possible, to represent the City of Lincoln. The authors have noted when other geographic units were used (Lancaster County, of which Lincoln comprises 90% of the population; the Lincoln Metropolitan Statistical Area, which is Lancaster and Seward Counties; or Nebraska as a whole).

There is some variation in reporting of racial and ethnic categories within the study based on availability from the data source. For most data used in the study, categorization is based on self-identification. At a minimum, the Census Bureau reports five racial categories: White, Black/African-American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. Persons may choose more than one race. When population sizes of racial groups are small, access to specific data about these populations may be suppressed by the Census Bureau. The Census Bureau also collects Hispanic/Latinx origin (popularly called "ethnicity"). Ethnicity is a separate and distinct concept from race. That is, an individual may claim any race along with Hispanic/Latinx origin. For purposes of presentation, race and ethnicity are often reported in a single graphic figure. Further, we have shortened titles of racial/ethnicity categories, in most cases.

Data Indicators/Sources Cont.

Over the years, the U.S. Census Bureau has varied its approach to reporting about persons living in group quarters (including data from populations living in college dormitories, correctional facilities, nursing homes). For example, beginning in 2006, race and educational attainment data include persons in group quarters. Calculations for persons in poverty EXCLUDE institutionalized people, people in military group quarters, people in college dormitories, and unrelated individuals under 15 years old.

Omitted Measures

Some indicators that were in previous reports have been removed from this year's report, primarily because data are no longer available.

This 2019 report no longer includes indicators from the following categories:

Community Profile

- Lincoln's peer themed cities map (Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago)

Economy and Workforce

- Creative Industries share of all businesses (National Arts Index)
- Total nonprofit arts, culture, and humanities organizations per 100,000 population (National Arts Index)
- Total nonprofit arts, culture, and humanities revenue per capita (National Arts Index)

Education

- Importance of Early Child Care and Education (Buffet Early Childhood Institute)
- Satisfaction with quality of early childhood care and education programs in Lincoln (Buffet Early Childhood Institute)
- Barriers to Accessing High Quality Early Child Care and Education (Buffet Early Childhood Institute)
- Cost of High Quality Early Childhood Care and Education as a Barrier to Access (Buffet Early Childhood Institute)

Safety and Security

- Life Threatening Calls with Response Arrival in 4 Minutes or Less (City of Lincoln, Mayor's Office Taking Charge Website)

Data Sources

Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) Annual Reports U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families

The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) collects case-level information from state and tribal title IV-E agencies on all children in foster care and those who have been adopted with title IV-E agency involvement. Title IV-E agencies are required to submit AFCARS data twice a year.

American Chamber of Commerce Research Association (ACCRA) Cost of Living Index (COLI) Council for Community and Economic Research (C2ER)

Since 1968, the Council for Community and Economic Research (C2ER) has collected and published cost of living data comparing city-to-city key consumer costs. However, the voluntary nature of the index means that not every area is covered. The Cost of Living Index is referenced in the U.S. Census Bureau's Statistical Abstract of the U.S. The index is cross-sectional in nature; the overall U.S. average is indexed to 100, and the individual area prices are expressed relative to the U.S. average. The data are reported quarterly.

American Community Survey United States Census Bureau

The American Community Survey (ACS) is a relatively new survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. It uses a series of monthly samples to produce annually updated data for the same small areas (census tracts and block groups) formerly surveyed via the decennial census long-form sample. Initially, 5 years of samples will be required to produce these small-area data. Once the Census Bureau has collected 5 years of data, new small-area data will be produced annually. The Census Bureau also will produce 3-year and 1-year data products for larger geographic areas. The ACS includes people living in both housing units (HUs) and group quarters (GQs). The ACS is conducted throughout the United States and in Puerto Rico.

Annual Domestic Violence Reports Nebraska Crime Commission

Data is reported by all local jurisdictions and compiled by the Nebraska Crime Commission on an annual basis. Data collection began in 1999. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS).

Data Sources Cont.

Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The BRFSS is an ongoing, monthly, state-based telephone survey of the adult population. The survey provides state-specific information on behavioral risk factors and preventive health practices. Major changes to BRFSS survey methods began in 2011, meaning that comparison of data prior to 2011 to that after 2011 is not recommended.

Crime in the United States FBI Uniform Crime Reports

Crime in the United States is an annual publication in which the FBI compiles the volume and rate of violent and property crime offenses for the nation, and by state. Individual law enforcement agency data are also provided for those contributors supplying 12 months complete offense data. This report also includes arrest, clearance, and law enforcement employee data. Use the new online UCR Data Tool to research crime statistics for the nation, by state, and by individual law enforcement agency.

Decennial Survey United States Census Bureau

The U.S. Census counts every resident in the United States. It is mandated by Article I, Section 2 of the Constitution and takes place every 10 years. The data collected by the decennial census determine the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives and is also used to distribute billions in federal funds to local communities. The 2010 Census represented the most massive participation movement ever witnessed in our country. Approximately 74 percent of the households returned their census forms by mail; the remaining households were counted by census workers walking neighborhoods throughout the United States. National and state population totals from the 2010 Census were released on December 21, 2010.

Gallup-Sharecare Well-Being Index® (formerly Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index®) Gallup

The specific dimensions on which communities and states are ranked changed in 2014. The Well-Being Index now measures Americans' perceptions of their lives and their daily experiences through five interrelated elements that make up well-being: sense of purpose, social relationships, financial security, relationship to community, and physical health.

Data Sources Cont.

Lincoln/Lancaster County Youth Risk Behavioral Survey (Lincoln/Lancaster YRBS)

Lincoln/Lancaster County Health Department

The Youth Risk Behavior Survey measures the prevalence of health-risk behaviors among adolescents through representative national, state, and local surveys conducted biennially. Data is available from surveys conducted in 1999, 2001, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2013, and 2015. The national and state surveys use multi-stage cluster sampling to obtain samples of students in grades 9-12 reflecting the geographic, urban-rural, racial, gender, and grade makeup of the population in those grade levels. In Lancaster County, the survey is conducted in all high schools, in randomly selected classrooms of a required period (second or English period). Parental consent was required beginning in 1997.

Lincoln Economic Dashboard and Business Conditions and Indicators Reports

Lincoln Partnership for Economic Development

The Lincoln Economic Dashboard is a joint effort of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Bureau of Business Research, the Board of Directors of the Lincoln Partnership for Economic Development, and the Lincoln Partnership for Economic Development Steering Committee. The Dashboard collects and presents data to measure Lincoln's economic performance in comparison to other communities. The Business Conditions & Indicators Reports is designed to inform business leaders, government officials, and the community about the perceptions of doing business in Lincoln by the primary employers/businesses.

Lincoln Homeless Point in Time Report

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Center on Children, Families and the Law

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development requires each Continuum of Care to conduct an unduplicated Point-in-Time Count of all persons who are homeless. Since 2006, the Lincoln Homeless Coalition has worked with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Center on Children, Families, and the Law to conduct the unduplicated count. Included in the count are the number of homeless persons sheltered in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs, and domestic violence shelters provide aggregate counts of unduplicated persons in their shelters. These persons represent the sheltered homeless counts. A street count (unsheltered persons) is conducted by the Lincoln Police Department, Matt Talbot Kitchen and Outreach, Cedars Street Outreach, and U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Street count information is then cross referenced with CS-MIS sheltered information to remove duplicates identified in the street count from those identified as sheltered in the CS-MIS count.

Data Sources Cont.

Lincoln Police Department Quality Service Audit **City of Lincoln Police Department**

Phone survey conducted by Gallup with people who had contact with a police officer (such as crime victims and people who received traffic tickets), but not arrested for a crime.

Lincoln Public Schools Statistical Handbooks **Lincoln Public Schools**

The Annual Statistical Handbook contains basic statistical information about Lincoln Public Schools. It is intended to provide the user with current information about public education in the community of Lincoln, Nebraska.

Local Area Unemployment Statistics **Bureau of Labor Statistics**

The Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program is a federal-state cooperative effort that produces monthly estimates of total employment and unemployment. These estimates are key indicators of local economic conditions. The concepts and definitions underlying LAUS data come from the Current Population Survey (CPS), the household survey that is the official measure of the labor force for the nation. Data from several sources, including the CPS, the CES program, State UI systems, annual population estimates, and the decennial census, are used to create estimates that are adjusted to the statewide measures of employment and unemployment.

Map the Meal Gap **Feeding America**

The primary goal of the Map the Meal Gap analysis is to more accurately assess food insecurity at the community level. Map the Meal Gap generates two types of community-level data: county-level food insecurity and child food insecurity estimates by income categories, and an estimate of the food budget shortfall that food insecure individuals report they experience.

Data Sources Cont.

Monthly Labor Review (MLR)

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Monthly Labor Review (MLR) is the principal journal of fact, analysis, and research from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Each month, economists, statisticians, and experts from the Bureau join with private sector professionals and state and local government specialists to provide a wealth of research in a wide variety of fields—the labor force, the economy, employment, inflation, productivity, occupational injuries and illnesses, wages, prices, and more.

National Center for Juvenile Justice

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Collects and presents information about juvenile participation in the justice system.

National Vital Statistics System (NVSS)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The National Vital Statistics System is the oldest system of inter-governmental data sharing in Public Health. These data are provided through contracts between NCHS and vital registration systems operated in the various jurisdictions legally responsible for the registration of vital events—births, deaths, marriages, divorces, and fetal deaths. Mortality data from the National Vital Statistics System (NVSS) are a fundamental source of demographic, geographic, and cause-of-death information.

Nebraska Education Profile (NEP) (formerly Nebraska State of the Schools Reports)

The Nebraska Education Profile is the online portal that provides information and data about Nebraska public schools and student performance. The NEP highlights the performance of students by district and school building in reading, mathematics, writing, and science as well as performance by groups of students, including race and ethnicity, poverty, special education, and English Language Learners.

Nebraska Foster Care Review Office Annual Reports

These are annual reports by the Nebraska Foster Care Review Office that summarize data about Nebraska children who are in out-of-home placement in Nebraska.

Data Sources Cont.

Nebraska Youth Risk Behavioral Survey (Nebraska YRBS) Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services

The survey is designed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and matches surveys used in other states. The CDC selects a sample for Nebraska using a two-stage cluster sampling design. In the first stage, a random sample of public high schools is selected with probability proportionate to school enrollment. Schools are then recruited to participate. In the second stage, within each of the participating schools, a random sample of classrooms is selected and all students in those classes are targeted for participation. Upon agreeing to participate, schools work with University of Nebraska-Lincoln Bureau of Sociological Research (BOSR). BOSR, who assists the school in selecting an administration date, sends the school the surveys and instructions for administration, receives surveys back from the schools, and sends them to the CDC. The CDC weights the surveys to represent all public high school students in Nebraska.

Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates Bureau of Labor Statistics

The Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) program produces employment and wage estimates annually for over 800 occupations. These estimates are available for the nation as a whole, for individual states, and for metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas; national occupational estimates for specific industries are also available.

Online Vital Statistics Reporting System Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department

Vital records data include information on births and deaths occurring to Lancaster County residents. Birth and death records are an excellent source of population data to determine rates of birth, pregnancy, prenatal care, birth weight, infant mortality, and numerous other birth outcomes and causes of death. Birth certificate data are collected from various sources; including the mother, clinic, and hospital with most of the information coming from the hospital and other medical records. As for the source of data from death certificates, the cause of death is reported by the attending physician or coroner/medical examiners. Funeral directors and the families often are the sources of information about the person's demographic characteristics.

Data Sources Cont.

Patent Technology Monitoring Team (PTMT) United States Patent and Trademark Office

The PTMT annually updates and periodically issues general statistics and miscellaneous reports that profile patenting activity at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). The PTMT annually updates the yearly number of applications and grants for utility, design, plant, and reissue patents granted since 1963 in their U.S. Patent Statistics Report.

Quarterly Workforce Indicators United States Census Bureau

The Quarterly Workforce Indicators (QWI) are a set of 32 economic indicators including employment, job creation/destruction, wages, hires, and other measures of employment flows. The QWI are reported based on detailed firm characteristics (geography, industry, age, size) and worker demographics (sex, age, education, race, ethnicity) and are available tabulated to national, state, metropolitan/micropolitan areas, county, and workforce investment areas (WIA). The QWI are unique in their ability to track both firm and worker characteristics over time.

Sexually Transmitted Diseases Surveillance Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Annual reports present surveillance information derived from the official statistics for the reported occurrence of nationally notifiable sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) in the United States, test positivity and prevalence data from numerous prevalence monitoring initiatives, sentinel surveillance, and national health care services surveys.

Statistical Briefing Book Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)

The OJJDP Statistical Briefing Book (SBB) is an online information source via OJJDP's website. Developed for OJJDP by the National Center for Juvenile Justice, the SBB presents information about juvenile crime and victimization and about youth involved in the juvenile justice system.

Statistics of U.S. Businesses (SUSB) United States Census Bureau

Statistics of U.S. Businesses (SUSB) is an annual series that provides national and subnational data on the distribution of economic data by enterprise size and industry. SUSB covers most of the country's economic activity. The series excludes data on non-employer businesses, private households, railroads, agricultural production, and most government entities.

Data Sources Cont.

Statistics & Facts About Nebraska Schools Reports Nebraska Department of Education

This is a series of reports that were included in a publication called Statistics and Facts About Nebraska Schools. The reports include state-level reports, district and school level reports for public districts, nonpublic systems and State Operated systems (Special Purpose Schools). Most of the reports relate to the Fall Membership (student counts as of the last Friday in September, Nebraska's official counting day). Other reports include School District Census by County and Full-Time Equivalency (F.T.E) of Certificated Personnel by Assignment and Gender.

Taking Charge Reports City of Lincoln

The City of Lincoln partnered with the University of Nebraska Public Policy Center on the Taking Charge public engagement process since 2008 to make their voices heard on a variety of budget topics. Their input has helped shape the budgets released by the Mayor's office. Reports presenting the results of online surveys combined with face-to-face community conversation have been released annually since 2013, monitoring initiatives, sentinel surveillance, and national health care services surveys.

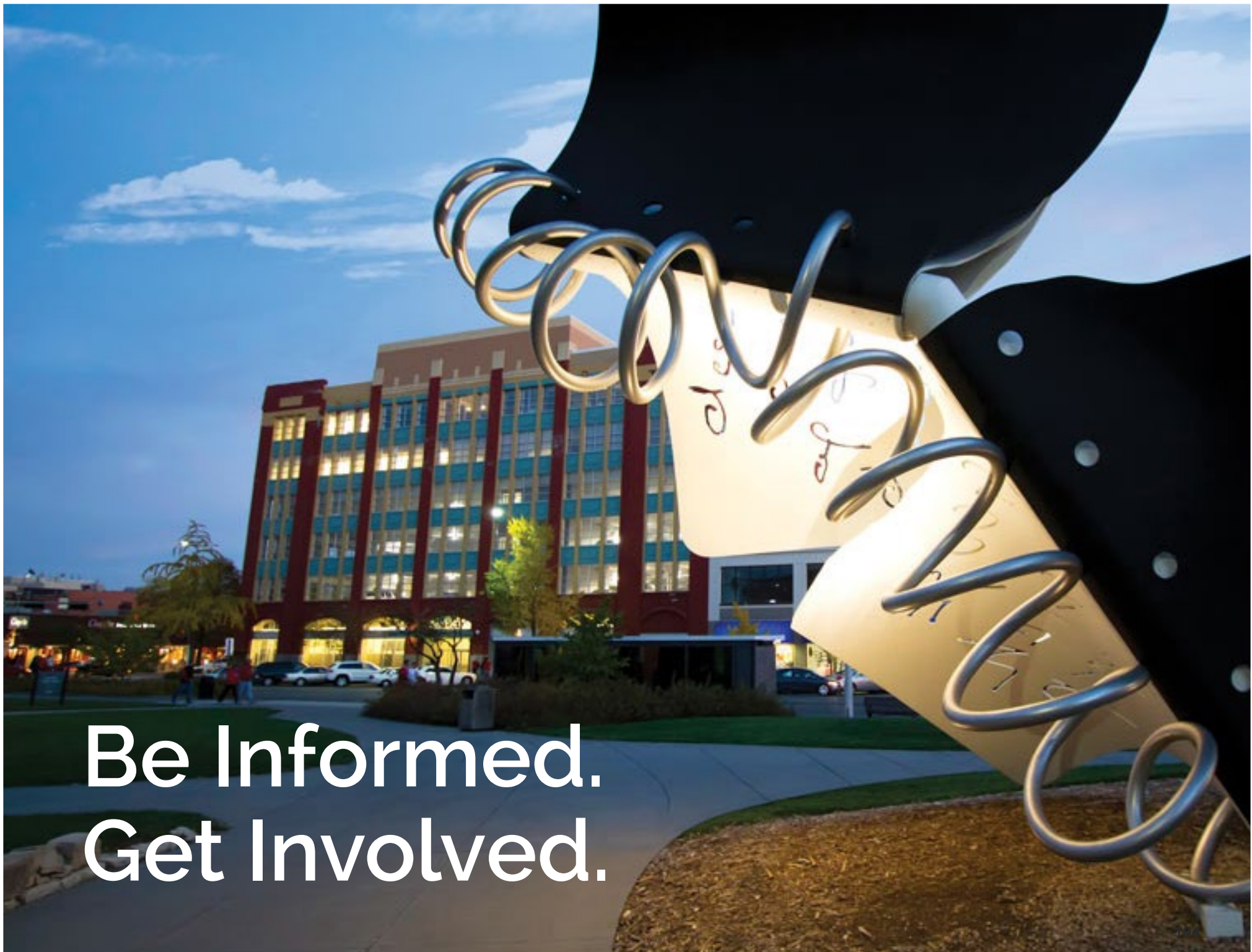
Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS), established in 1991, monitors six categories of priority health-risk behaviors among youths and young adults: 1) behaviors that contribute to unintentional injuries and violence; 2) sexual behaviors that contribute to human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection, other sexually transmitted diseases, and unintended pregnancy; 3) tobacco use; 4) alcohol and other drug use; 5) unhealthy dietary behaviors; and 6) physical inactivity. In addition, YRBSS monitors the prevalence of obesity and asthma among this population. YRBSS data are obtained from multiple sources, including a national school-based survey conducted by CDC as well as school-based state, territorial, tribal, and large urban school district surveys conducted by education and health agencies. These surveys have been conducted biennially since 1991 and include representative samples of students in grades 9–12.

Versions

Additions or deletions to the original publication of the 2019 Lincoln Vital Signs report are indicated below.

- **Version 1.0:** December 2019 - Original Publication.



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Get Involved.**



Lincoln Vital Signs

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