

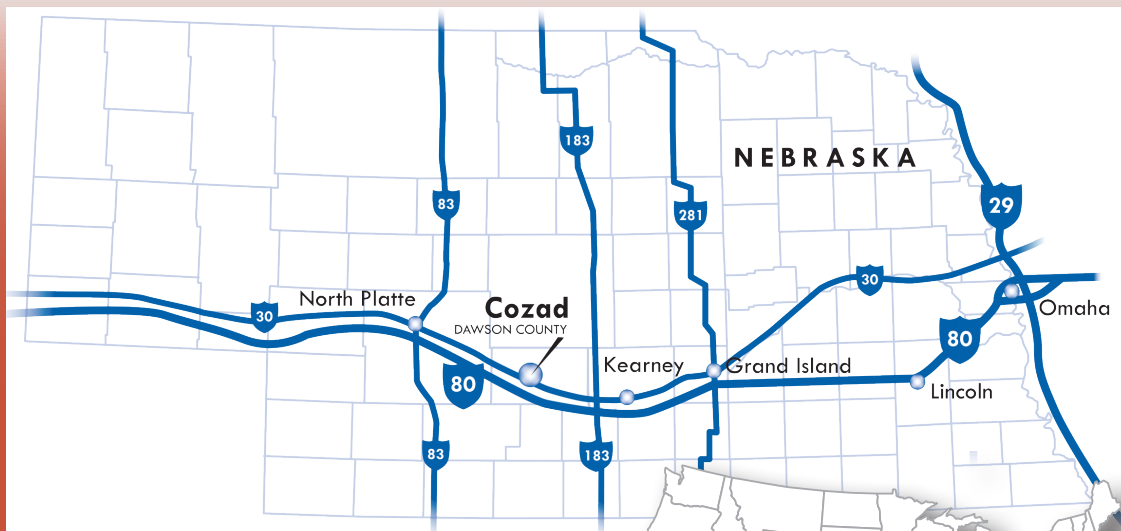
OFFICIAL COMMUNITY GUIDE

Cozad

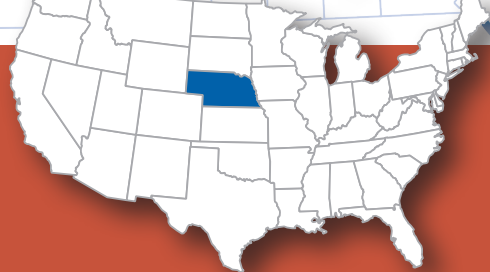
NEBRASKA



Welcome to Cozad! IN THE CENTER OF IT ALL!



Visit COZADNE.NET



►► Inside the guide

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2022 U.S. Census Population

COZAD	3,890
DAWSON COUNTY	23,884

The following pages contain basic information about Cozad, Nebraska. This information was compiled by the City of Cozad, Cozad Development Corporation, Cozad Chamber of Commerce and Nebraska Public Power District in order to promote community development and quality of life.

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Transportation

Location / Highways

Cozad is located in central Dawson County, approximately 15 miles west of Lexington, the county seat, and 15 miles east of Gothenburg. Nebraska Highway 21 runs through town from north to south and Nebraska Highway 30 runs east to west. Cozad is 50 miles east of North Platte, 50 miles west of Kearney, 179 miles west of Lincoln and 233 miles west of Omaha.

Air

The Cozad Municipal Airport has a 5,800 foot paved and lighted runway and a 3,000 foot grass runway. The local airport provides short and long term hangers, self-serve fuel, courtesy vehicles, free tie down, no ramp fees and free wifi.

Nearest Commercial Air Service:

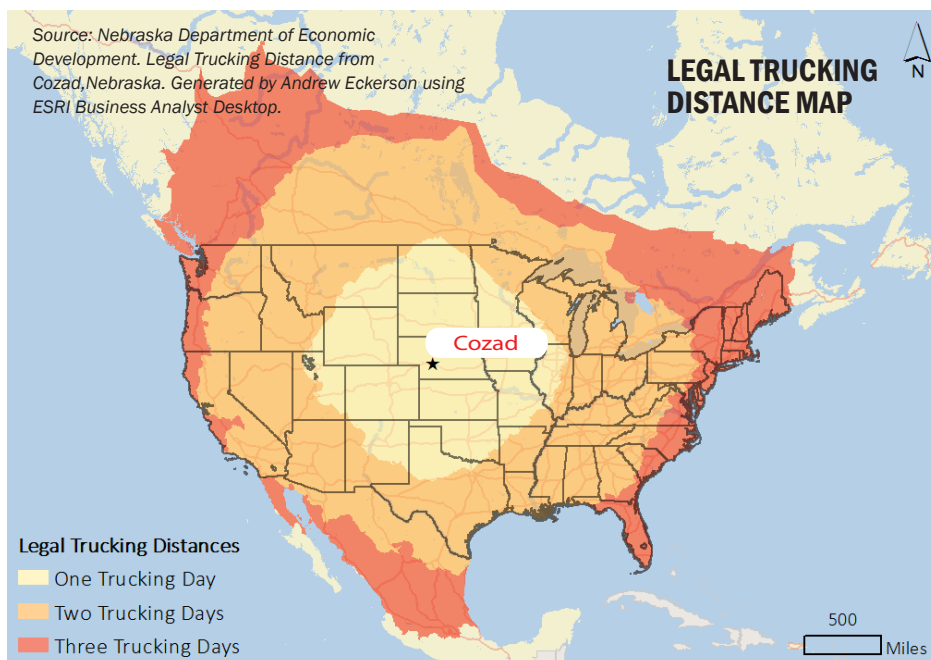
- Kearney Regional Airport, Kearney
58 miles, 52 minutes
- North Platte Regional Airport,
North Platte - 44 miles, 41 minutes
- Lincoln Airport, Lincoln
178 miles, 149 minutes
- Eppley Airfield, Omaha
236 miles, 200 minutes

Trucklines

More than 13,500 licensed motor carriers with worldwide connections are based in Nebraska and serve businesses throughout North America. The following trucking map is based on Cozad, Nebraska.

Rail

Union Pacific Railroad has a mainline that runs through the south side of Cozad.





Ground Breaking



Ribbon Cutting

Economic Development

The Cozad Development Corporation (CDC) is a non-profit economic development organization for the City of Cozad. Economic development is funded through a half cent sales tax approved by the voters of the city. Cozad Development owns approximately 150 shovel-ready acres and four buildings ripe for redevelopment. The price of the available property is \$30,000 per acre. For more information on available sites and buildings go to sites.nppd.com.

Cozad happens to be located in a designated Opportunity Zone, a New Market Tax Credit approved area. In addition, local Tax Increment Financing is a widely accepted development tool and the City of Cozad has a sizable

loan fund to support new and existing businesses. The entire city of Cozad has been set up as a PACE district.

Priority areas of CDC include: business retention, expansion, recruitment, and succession; housing and community development; and tourism. They offer many competitive incentive programs.

Firms with retail sales tax permits in Cozad reported 2023 net taxable retail sales of \$59,939,940 while Dawson County reported retail sales of \$291,795,094.

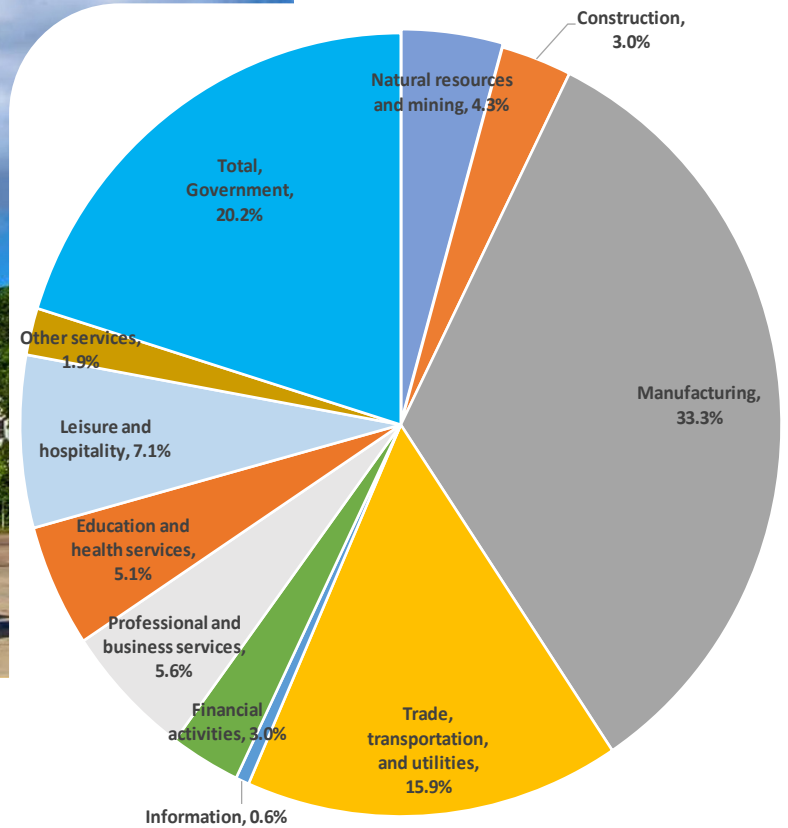
COZAD IS COMMITTED TO CONTINUED PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT WHILE OFFERING EXCELLENT QUALITY OF LIFE TO ALL WITHIN OUR LOCAL AREA.

DAWSON COUNTY'S LEADING EMPLOYERS

EMPLOYERS	PRODUCT OR SERVICE	EMPLOYEES
Tyson Fresh Meats	Boxed Beef	2,700
VVS Canteen	Warehousing	341
Paulsen Inc.	Construction	300
Orthman Manufacturing	Manufacturing	300
Nebraksa Plastics	Manufacturing	300
Lexington Regional Health, Inc.	Medical	224
Cozad Public Schools	Education	135
Cozad Health Systems	Medical	125
Chief Ethanol Systems	Ethanol	60
Dawson County	Government	3

Dawson County Labor Force

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2022



Paulsen, Inc.

Workforce

The Nebraska Department of Labor serves employers and job seekers across Nebraska through its “One Stop Career Centers” located across the state. Services for employers include employee recruitment and screening, posting job openings, tax credit information, and labor market and labor law information. Job seekers can find a full array of employment and training related services including on site services provided by a network of mandatory Workforce Investment Act partners. To learn more about these and other services, visit networks.nebraska.gov.

Unionization

Nebraska has a right to work provision in its constitution.



UNEMPLOYMENT RATE 2022

	PERCENT
DAWSON COUNTY	2.5%
NEBRASKA	2.3%
UNITED STATES	3.6%

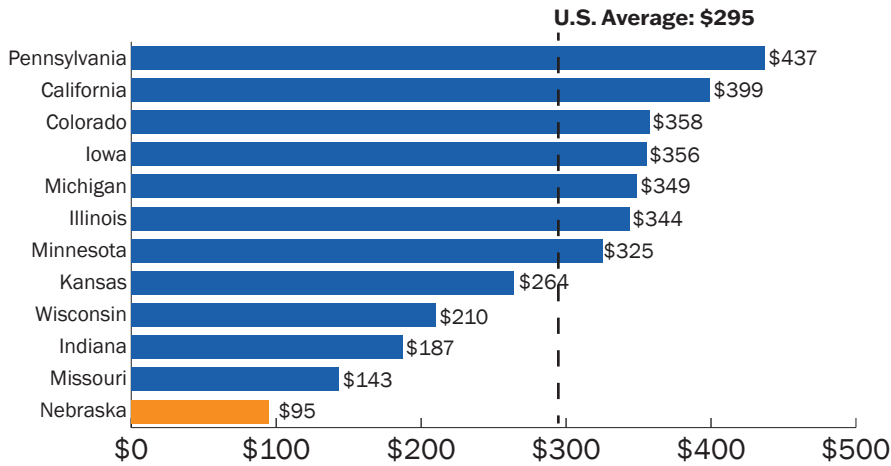
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2022

Average Annual Unemployment Insurance Contribution per Employee, 2021

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2022

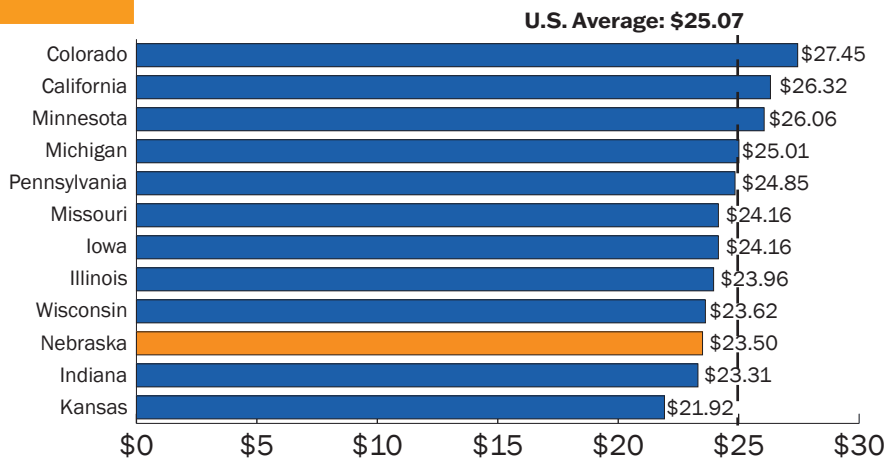


Contribution per Employee, 2021



Average Hourly Earnings for Production Workers, 2022

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2023



ANNUAL AVERAGE 2022 LABOR SUPPLY

*Contiguous Nebraska counties include Buffalo, Custer, Frontier, Gosper, Lincoln and Phelps.

	DAWSON COUNTY & CONTIGUOUS*	DAWSON COUNTY
NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY WORKERS	65,790	11,705
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT	77,406	13,396
LABOR FORCE POPULATION	79,102	13,733
ADDITIONAL POTENTIAL LABOR SUPPLY		
COMMUTING OUT OF COUNTY (2021)		3,302
UNEMPLOYED		337
TOTAL		3,639

NOTE: Does not include estimated number of homemakers, seasonal and part-time workers, and workers who would shift from low-paying jobs who could be expected to work for industry.

WAGE SAMPLING

JOB TITLE	ENTRY LEVEL	MEDIAN	EXPERIENCED
ACCOUNTANTS AND AUDITORS	45.41	62.19	82.27
COMPUTER PROGRAMMERS	81.93	114.04	134.65
REGISTERED NURSES	58.05	70.49	78.27
RETAIL SALESPERSON	23.30	29.02	37.85
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS except legal, medical	29.67	37.92	43.56
CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES	27.59	34.32	40.30
OFFICES CLERKS, GENERAL	23.43	32.65	37.85
ASSEMBLERS AND FABRICATORS, ALL OTHER	31.67	38.71	42.25
LABORERS AND FREIGHT STOCK, MATERIAL MOVES, HAND	29.54	36.58	40.36
MACHINISTS	35.00	44.42	51.05
WELDERS, CUTTERS, SOLDERERS AND BRAZERS	37.84	45.64	50.90
HEAVY AND TRACTOR-TRAILOR TRUCK DRIVERS	38.18	49.03	58.14
ELECTRICIANS	36.49	46.65	56.95
TOOLS AND DIE MAKERS	42.74	56.06	63.62

*Wage Information taken from Nebraska Statewide

Source: Nebraska Workforce Development, Occupational Employment, Program, Second Quarter 2023
Hourly wages rates for various occupations,
Dawson County, Nebraska



Cozad Post Office



Union Pacific in Cozad

Communications

Telecommunications & Internet Providers

AT&T
att.com
Phone

Verizon
verizon.com
Phone

Cozad Telephone Company
cozadtel.net
Phone/Internet

Spectrum
spectrum.com
Internet

HughesNet
hughesnet.com
Internet

Starlink
starlink.com
Internet

Post Office & Package Delivery Service

The U.S. Postal Service in Cozad has one mail receipt and one dispatch daily.

Federal Express, United Parcel Service, and U.S. Postal Service provide package delivery services in the Cozad area.



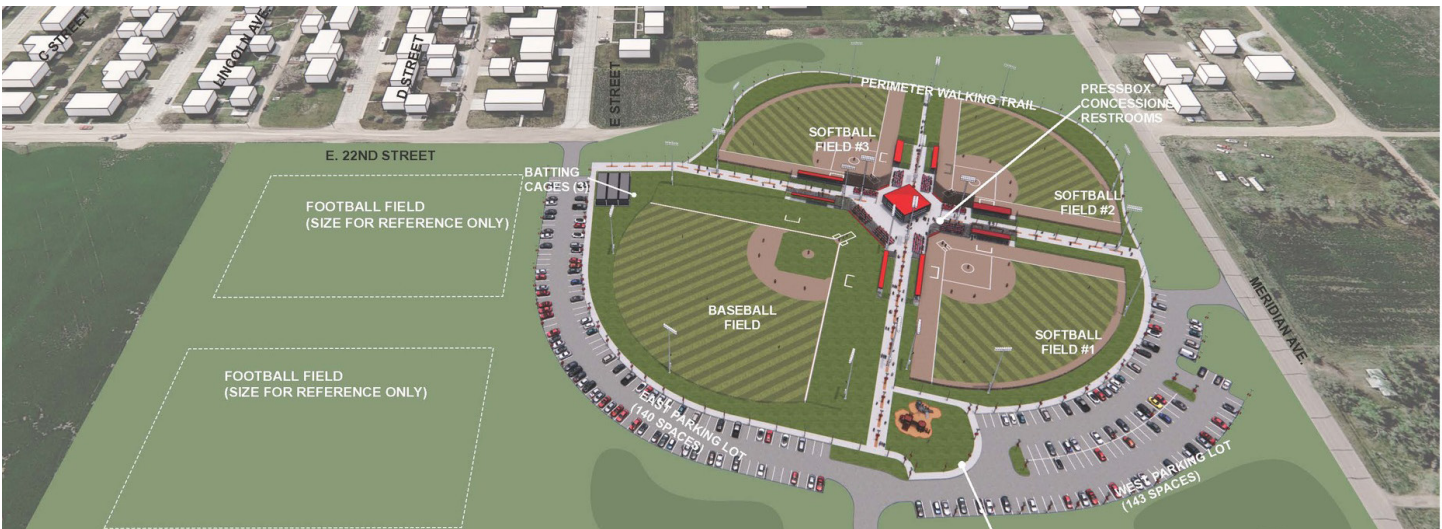
Memorial Ribbon Cutting



Memorial Unveiling



Memorial Day Service at Veteran's Memorial



Future Sports complex plans



Historic Train Depot & Cozad Charitable Fund Offices



Platte Valley Tailwinds Festival

Local Government

Cozad is governed by a Mayor-Council form of government and the City Administrator and City Clerk. The public elects members to four-year terms.

Dawson County has 20 precincts and eight townships. The county is governed by five County Board of Commissioners.

Streets

The city has 35 miles of streets; 95 percent of the streets are hard-surfaced; 90 percent of the streets have curbs; and 80 percent have sidewalks.

Fire Protection

Fire protection is provided to the city by a 32 member volunteer fire department. Cozad Volunteer Fire Department has one fire station and 218 fire hydrants.

Law Enforcement

The Cozad Police Department provides law enforcement in the community. The department has eight full-time police officers and six support personnel.

For more information on Cozad's local government, visit cozadne.net.



Volunteer Fire & Rescue in Cozad are active in the community in addition to serving their roles to keep everyone safe and thriving.

2023 CRIME RATES		
Per 1,000 Population	VIOLENT CRIMES	PROPERTY CRIMES
NEBRASKA	1.63	13.68
DAWSON COUNTY	0.85	8.68



Cozad Police Department

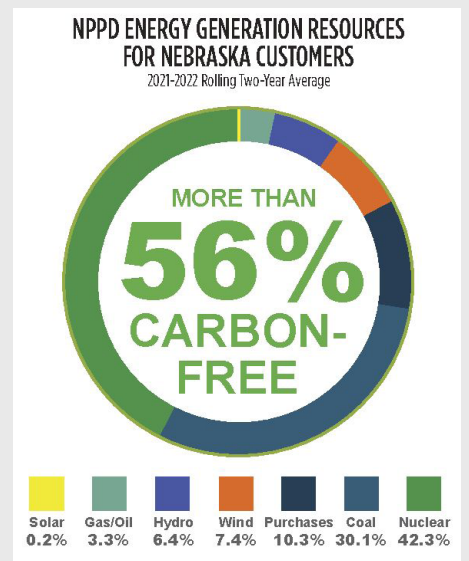
Utilities

Nebraska Highlights

Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) is the state's largest electric generating utility in terms of chartered territory, which includes all or parts of 84 of Nebraska's 93 counties. NPPD relies upon nine major generating facilities, more than 5,000 miles of high-voltage power lines, approximately 260 substations, and thousands more miles of distribution lines. Because the system is interconnected to electrical grids in other states, NPPD works with regional utilities and industry entities to ensure power is delivered safely and dependably to Nebraskans.

Energy costs are often a considerable part of any business' operational budget. These costs can vary greatly between states, but in Nebraska (the only state in the nation where all electric utilities are publicly owned) electric costs are passed to consumers at low, cost-of-service rates. As a result, the state offers industrial rates well below the national average. Nebraska electric utilities achieve low rates, in part, because they draw from a balanced and efficient "mix" of generation resources.

For additional information contact Nebraska Public Power District at (877) 275-6773 and at nppd.com.



Tax Structure

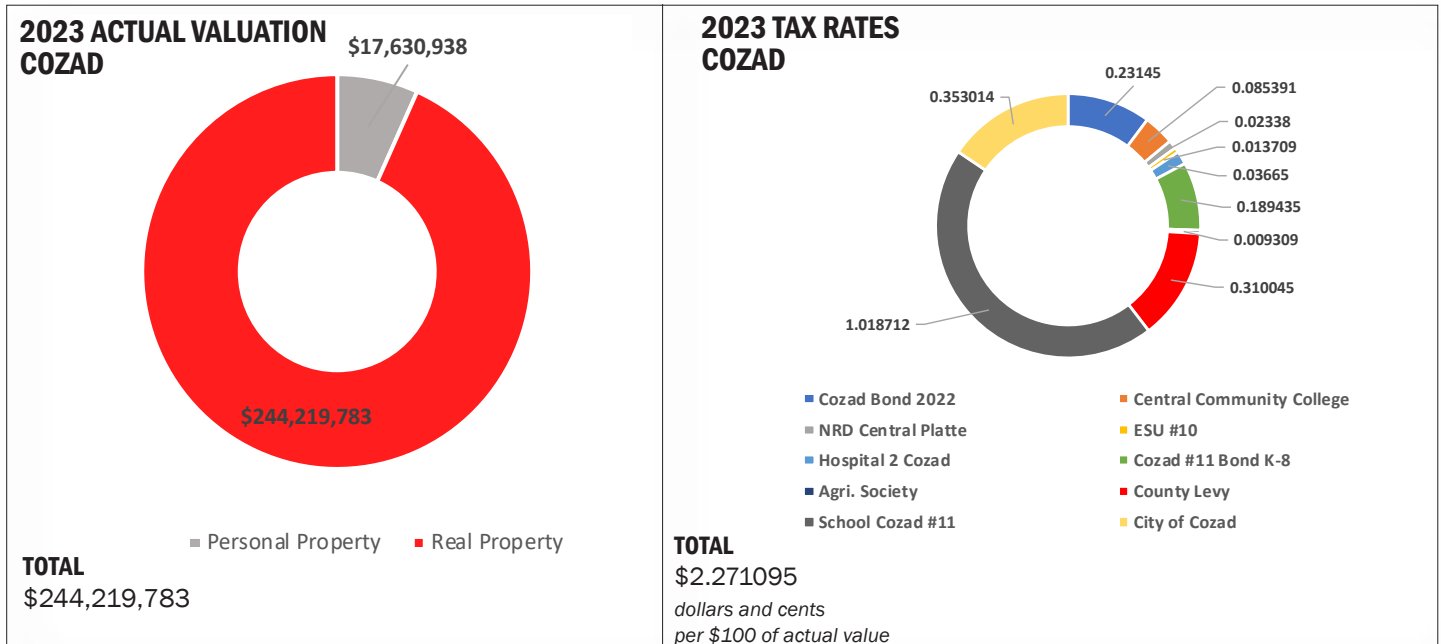
Nebraska Tax Incentives

Nebraska's performance-based tax incentive programs demonstrate the state's commitment to creating a favorable business environment for your business expansion or location. Known collectively as "ImagiNE Nebraska," this

multi-tiered program provides investment credits, wage credits, sales tax refunds based on investment and job creation in Nebraska.

Qualified companies, large and small can take advantage of these benefits.

Contact the Nebraska Department of Economic Development at 800-426 6505 or visit opportunity.nebraska.gov for more information on the qualifications and potential benefits available to your company.



Electricity

The electric 34,500 volt subtransmission facilities serving Cozad are owned and operated by The Board of Public Works, a wholesale power customer of Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD). The primary subtransmission service is from the Cozad 115,000/69,000/34,500 volt Substation with total subtransmission transformer capacity at 34,500 volts of 28,000 KVA. The City of Cozad provides power to Cozad from 4,160 volt, 2,400 volt and 480 volt distribution systems which are connected to six (6) 34,500 volt subtransmission substations. The City of Cozad's 34,500 volt subtransmission system is looped with two lines feeding the city and connected to NPPD's statewide 115,000 volt transmission electric grid.

Prospective customers should contact Electric Commissioner, Jerry Fales, Cozad Nebraska, (402) 984-7829, email jerry.bpworks@cozadtel.net, for further information regarding electric rates and services.

Natural Gas

Black Hills Energy is a retail supplier of natural gas in Cozad. For more information, visit blackhillsenergy.com.

Water & Sewerage

The municipal water system in Cozad is supplied by six wells, which have an average depth of 100-300 feet. The system, serving the entire city, has a combined pumping capacity of 6,875 gallons per minute and an overhead storage capacity of 500,000 gallons. The system has a

maximum capacity of 9,900,000 gallons per day.

The city has a municipal sanitary sewerage system and a storm sewer system. The sequencing batch reactor treatment plant has a daily capacity of 1,000,000 gallons.

Visit www.cozadne.net/utilities for more information regarding water and sewerage.

Recycling

Lexington Area Solid Waste Agency has a recycling program.

Education



Cozad Elementary School



Cozad, Nebraska is rumored to be the “alfalfa capitol of the world.” The school mascot is “the Haymakers.” As the name demonstrates, Cozad is a farming community.

Cozad School District

Cozad Community Schools, District 24-0011, in Dawson County and Custer Counties has a 2023-2024 actual valuation of \$913,302,544 with an actual valuation per student of \$944,470. The school operating expenses for 2022-2023 were \$13,910,000 with an average cost per pupil of \$16,536.

Bus services are provided between the communities. This Class 3 school is accredited by the State of Nebraska.

For more information, visit cozadschools.net.

Educational Service Unit

Educational Service Unit 10 (ESU), headquartered in Kearney, serves 12 counties including Dawson County. For more information regarding services, visit esu10.org.

2022-23 ACT SCORES

	COMPOSITE
COZAD HIGH SCHOOL	16.9
NEBRASKA	18.6
NATIONAL	19.5

Source: Nebraska Department of Education

Higher Education

Cozad is located within 14 miles from Central Community College in Lexington.

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

COZAD COMMUNITY SCHOOLS' MISSION, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FAMILY AND COMMUNITY, PREPARES STUDENTS TO BE SUCCESSFUL LIFELONG LEARNERS THROUGH QUALITY EDUCATION.

COZAD COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

	STUDENTS	TEACHER/PUPIL RATIO	COMPUTER/PUPIL RATIO
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (K-5)	419	1:13	1:1
MIDDLE SCHOOL (6-8)	225	1:11	1:1
HIGH SCHOOL (9-12)	290	1:11	1:1



Cozad Middle School



Cozad High School Band



Powderpuff Football



Cozad High School



Cozad Fire and Rescue

Quality of Life

Hospital

Cozad Community Hospital offers comprehensive inpatient and outpatient services. There are 20 beds available, 24-hour emergency care, home health and hospice services, physical therapy, and a full array of other services available. For more information, visit cozadhealthcare.com.

Clinic

The Cozad Community Medical Clinic provides preventive health services, counseling, prenatal and postnatal obstetrical care, wellness exams and many other services designed to deliver

health care to the entire family. For more information, visit cozadclinic.com

Rescue Squad

The Cozad Rescue Squad has three ambulances, 18 emergency medical technicians and 29 first responders.

Nursing Homes

- Emerald Nursing & Rehab
- Cozad Care and Rehabilitation Center
- Meadowlark Pointe

Assisted Living

- Meadowlark Pointe

Low Cost / Retirement Housing

- Cozad Housing
- Haymaker Haven
- Park Plaza Apartments
- Gatewood Estates

Churches (Denomination)

- Assembly of God
- Baptist
- Berean Fundamental
- Catholic
- Christian Church
- Church of God
- Church of the Nazarene
- Church of Christ
- Community Bible
- Episcopalian
- Lutheran
- Methodist
- Presbyterian

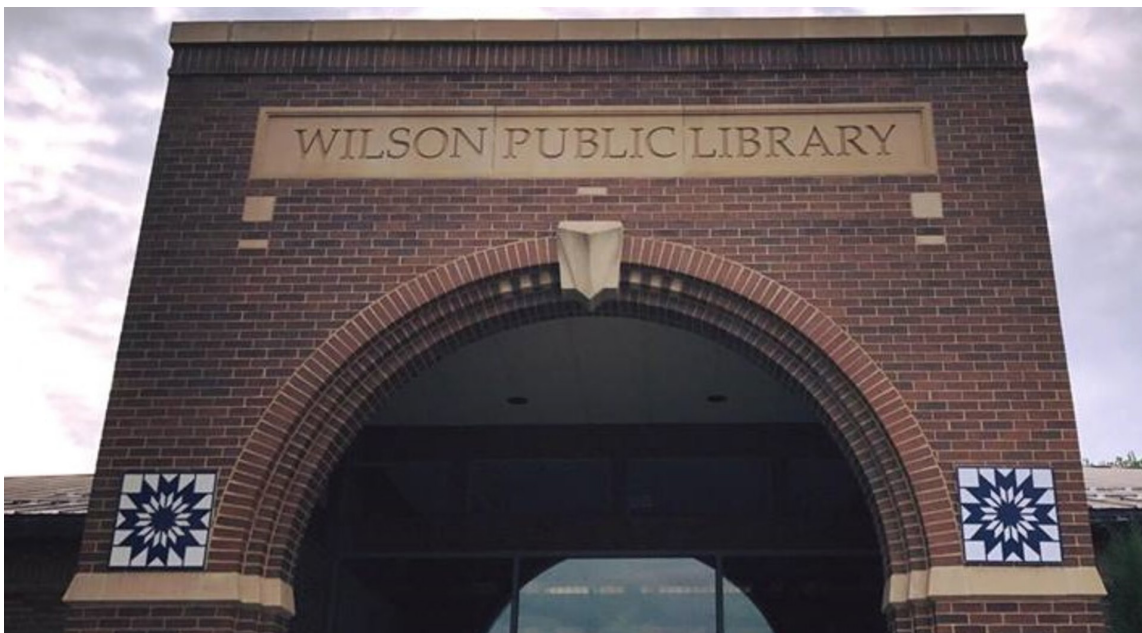


Cozad Community Hospital





Cozad Fire and Rescue Department



Wilson Public Library



Community Wellness Center



Midway Lake

Library

Wilson Public Library offers over 30,000 items for loan, including books, dvds, cake pans, puppets, and audiobooks. Digital audio and e-books are available through Overdrive and Libby apps. Free wifi, over 15 public computer stations or laptops to use, and many services are available such as fax, print, copy, and lamination for a nominal cost. The library is known for its programming for all ages. Visit wilsonpubliclibrary.org, or check out their Facebook page. Genealogy services and microfilm of newspapers back to the 1800s are available along with a variety of free research databases. The library has county and area newspapers as well as magazines to look at in a comfortable environment, or use one of several public rooms for different sizes of meetings. Wilson Public Library is also a destination, as there are beautiful sculptures outside the building and a unique art collection inside.



With historic sites like the Robert Henri Museum, Art Gallery and Historic Walkway, 100th Meridian Museum, and a strong mix of businesses, everything you're looking for can be found in Cozad.

Recreation

There are seven parks in Cozad covering 38 acres. Munny Park is equipped with a baseball field and three soccer fields, horseshoe and volleyball courts, frisbee golf, playground equipment, restrooms, a picnic shelter and outdoor grills. The park also has a municipal Olympic-sized swimming pool and a hard-surfaced exercise trail. Camping sites with water, sewer, and 30-50-amp electrical service hookups are available in Munny Park.

Centennial Park is equipped with a picnic shelter and restrooms, playground equipment and a splash pad.

Frenchy Park is equipped with playground equipment, an outdoor basketball court, picnic tables, public restrooms and an outdoor grill.

Sportsman Field has playground equipment, public restrooms, tennis

courts, and a Little League ballfield. Additional Little League baseball and softball fields can be found at Stuckey Park. Bellamy Park also has softball and baseball fields.

Midway Lake is south of town and has 333 acres and is 10 miles long. Excellent fishing and scenic boating can be found all over the lake.

Financial Institutions

- Homestead Bank
- Security First Bank
- Waypoint Bank

Housing

Thirty new homes were constructed in the past three years and it is estimated 65 will be built between 2025-2028. The cost of new home construction averages \$175 per square foot.



Robert Henri Historical Walkway



Downtown Pep Rally



Annual Easter Egg Scramble



Cozad Country Club



Music Mondays



Centennial Park & Splash Pad

Nebraska's Rank Among States

- 1ST** Commercial Cattle Slaughter, 2023
Great Northern Bean Production, 2023
Cash receipts per capita, 2022
Harvested cropland acres, irrigated, 2022
Beef and Veal exports, 2023
- 2ND** All cattle on feed, Jan. 1, 2024
All cattle and calves, Jan. 1, 2024
Commercial red meat production, 2021
Popcorn production - 2022
Ethanol production - 2023
Commercial red meat production - 2023
No-till cropland acres - 2022
Pinto bean production, 2023
Proso millet production, 2023
Bison, 2022
- 3RD** Corn Exports, 2022
Cash Receipts from All Farm Commodities, 2022
Corn for grain production - 2023
- 4TH** Beef Cows, Jan. 1, 2024
Cash receipts from all livestock and products - 2022
Cash receipts from all crops, 2022
Total animal products exports, 2022
All dry edible bean production - 2022
Light red kidney bean production - 2023
All hay production - 2023
Cover crop acres - 2022
Dry edible pea production, 2023
Land in Farms and Ranches, 2023
- 5TH** Soybean Exports, 2022
Agricultural exports, 2022
Sunflower production, 2023
Alfalfa hay production - 2023
Sugarbeet production - 2023
Harvested Acres of Principal Crops, 2021
Grain sorghum production, 2023
- 6TH** Commercial hog slaughter, 2023
All hogs and pigs on farms, Dec. 1, 2023
Soybean production, 2023
Harvest cropland acres - 2022
Sugar beet production, 2022

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



Agriculture

In 2021, Nebraska ranked first among the states in commercial cattle slaughter and popcorn production; second in beef and veal exports and commercial red meat production; third in corn exports and cash receipts from all farm commodities.

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



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

Groundwater

One of Nebraska's most vital natural resources is its massive supply of groundwater. The High Plains Aquifer, also commonly referred to as the Ogallala Aquifer, stretches through parts of eight states, but its most abundant water resource is located in nearly two-thirds of Nebraska. This groundwater availability has been essential to the success of agriculture in the state.

Center pivot irrigation is the most common method of providing water to row crops in the state, and as a result,



four of the largest manufacturers of center pivot systems in the world are located in Nebraska. Nebraska has more than 100,000 registered irrigation wells.

With the implementation of more efficient irrigation systems and other water management measures, the Ogallala Aquifer will remain a valuable resource in Nebraska. An accessible water supply also is vital to Nebraska's livestock and dairy production.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service



Located squarely over the Ogallala Aquifer, Cozad and Dawson County are positioned to be on the leading edge of production for years to come.



AGRICULTURE STATISTICS

	DAWSON COUNTY	NEBRASKA
NUMBER OF FARMS	671	44,479
LAND IN FARMS acres	643,088	43,975,693
AVERAGE SIZE OF FARMS acres	958	989
MARKET VALUE per farm	\$4,692,987	3,397,806
MARKET VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS SOLD	\$1,006,297	\$29,413,398
TOTAL ACRES IRRIGATED	264,554	7,965,938
PERCENT OF FARMLAND IRRIGATED	41.1%	18.1%

Source: 2022 Census of Agriculture

PRODUCTION OF LEADING CROPS

5 year average - 2019-2023

	DAWSON COUNTY	NEBRASKA
CORN bushels	40,711,740	1,719,112,000
SOYBEANS bushels	4,542,000	295,390,000

(*)- 4 year average

Source: 2022 Census of Agriculture

AVERAGE LIVESTOCK POPULATION

5 year average - 2018-2022

	DAWSON COUNTY	NEBRASKA
ALL CATTLE	234,000	5,707,358,000

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service

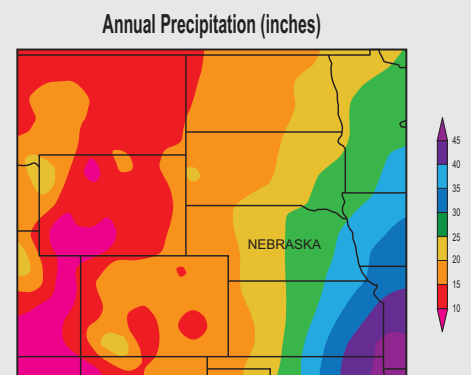
Climate

Nebraska has a continental climate, with hot summers and cold winters. Temperatures are highly variable from season to season and year to year.

Precipitation is also variable and ranges from an annual average of 15–20 inches in the west to 30–35 inches in southeast Nebraska.

The growing season in Nebraska fluctuates in length, but on average it ranges from 120 days in the extreme northwest to 170 days in the southeast.

For more information regarding Nebraska's climate, visit High Plains Climate Center, University of Nebraska-Lincoln at www.hprcc.unl.edu.



Choose Cozad



A mix of charming, modern and tried and true!

Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD), Nebraska's largest electric utility, assists in economic development for the areas it serves. For more information on NPPD's economic development assistance, contact Economic Development Department, 1414 15th Street, PO Box 499, Columbus, Nebraska 68602-0499, (877) 275-6773, Ext. 5534, email: econdev@nppd.com, or visit our website at [sites.nppd.com](https://www.sites.nppd.com).

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Nebraska Public Power District

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