



# Research Note

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## TIMBER VOLUME IN NEBRASKA, 1983

Ronald L. Hackett, *Associate Mensurationalist*

**ABSTRACT.**--Presents statistics on Nebraska's growing-stock and sawtimber volumes by county for 1983. Includes map showing growing-stock volume distribution by county.

**KEY WORDS:** Growing stock, sawtimber, species, counties.

Nebraska's 537,800 acres of commercial forest land--land suitable for producing industrial timber--supported 456 million cubic feet of growing-stock<sup>1</sup> volume in 1983. This is an increase of 23 percent since the last inventory conducted by the USDA Forest Service in 1955, despite a decrease in the commercial forest land base of 24 percent. The increase is predominantly in softwood volume, which has more than doubled in the 28 years between surveys. The average growing-stock volume per acre increased from 353 cubic feet (2.8 cords per acre) in 1955 to 848 cubic feet (6.6 cords per acre) in 1983. This is due to the larger average tree size in 1983.

Ponderosa pine is the most abundant species in Nebraska, accounting for 35 percent of the growing-stock volume (table 1). Cottonwood, the second most plentiful species group in the State, showed an increase of 2.1 million cubic feet from 1955 to 1983. Oak ranked third with 44.5 million cubic feet.

These three species groups make up about three-fourths of the growing stock volume in Nebraska. The following tabulation compares growing-stock volumes by species group for both surveys:

<sup>1</sup>Net volume of all live merchantable trees 5 inches d.b.h. and larger from the stump to a variable 4-inch top diameter outside bark of the central stem. Does not include limbs or cull tree volume.

	1955 <sup>2</sup>	1983
	(Million cubic feet)	
<b>Softwoods</b>		
Ponderosa pine	79.8	160.3
Eastern redcedar	3.8	9.9
Jack pine	1.0	-
Total	84.6	170.2
<b>Hardwoods</b>		
Oak	35.3	44.6
Hickory	1.4	4.2
Basswood	5.8	6.0
Soft maple	1.7	5.4
Boxelder	1.6	5.3
Elm	51.3	12.4
Ash	27.8	25.9
Cottonwood	140.1	142.2
Willow	6.4	11.1
Hackberry	6.5	16.5
Black walnut	3.4	5.1
Other hardwoods <sup>3</sup>	4.3	7.1
Total	285.6	285.8
All species	370.2	456.0

<sup>2</sup>Figures from the 1955 survey have been adjusted because of changes in survey procedures and definitions.

<sup>3</sup>Other hardwoods are Texas buckeye, paper birch, honeylocust, Kentucky coffee tree, and mulberry, osage orange, catalpa, black locust.

WESTERN UNIT

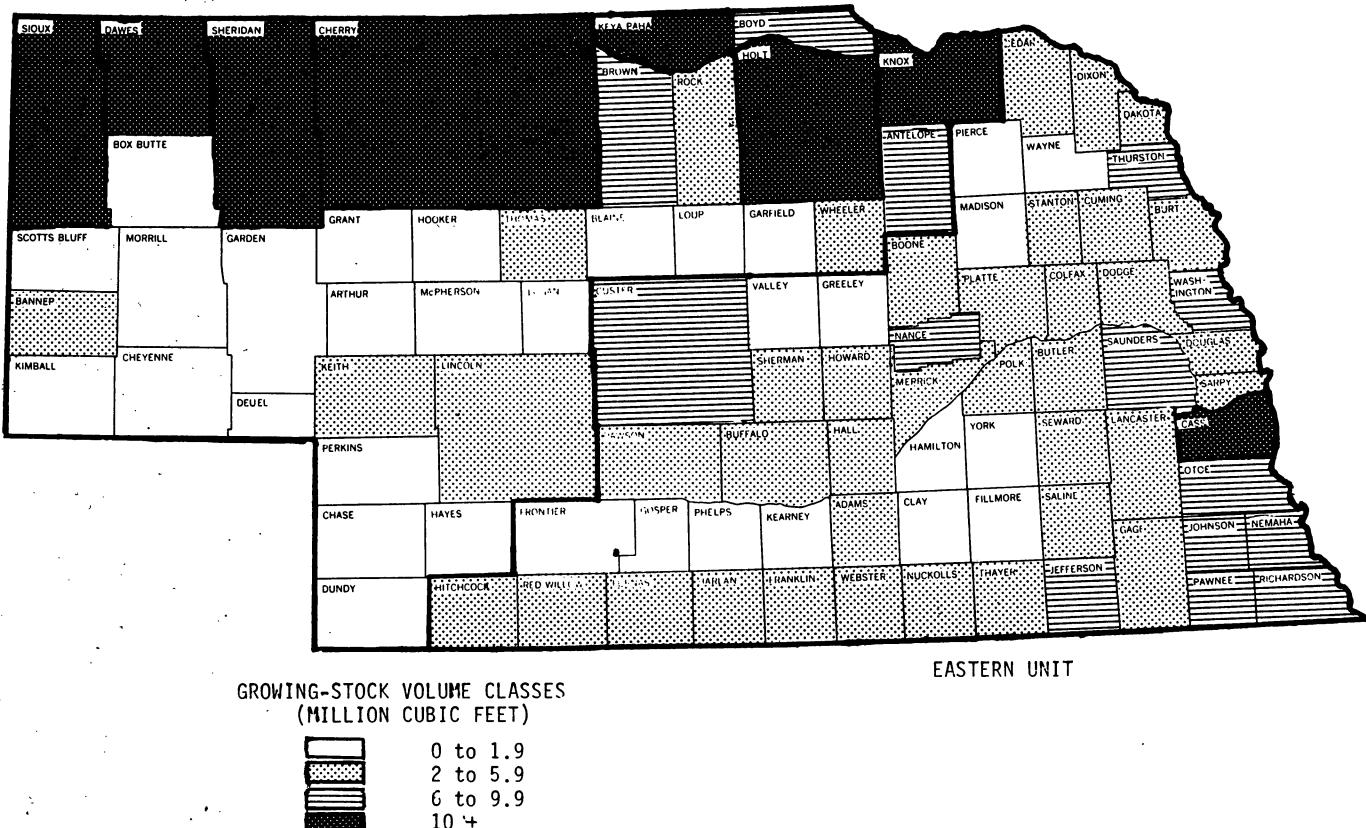


Figure 1.--Growing stock volume in Nebraska counties, 1983.

Included in the growing-stock volume are 1.7 billion board feet of sawtimber trees.<sup>4</sup> The average sawtimber volume per acre is 3,423.6 board feet. As with growing-stock, ponderosa pine is by far the leading sawtimber species in Nebraska and comprises 46 percent of the volume (table 2). The cottonwood species group is ranked second and accounts for 30 percent of the total sawtimber volume. Oak, ash, and hackberry account for most of the remaining sawtimber volume, as shown in the following tabulation:

	(Thousand board feet) <sup>5</sup>
Ponderosa pine	781,654
Cottonwood	510,947
Oak	138,956
Ash	89,308
Hackberry	44,308
Other species groups	146,333
Total	1,711,873

The major concentrations of timber are found along the northern border area and in the major river basins (fig. 1). Dawes County in the northwestern part of the State contains the largest volume of timber (12 percent

of the total), with 52.2 million cubic feet of growing-stock and 248.6 million board feet of sawtimber. Thirty-one percent of the total ponderosa pine growing-stock volume is found in Dawes County.

These statistics are based on results from the forest inventory conducted by the North Central Forest Experiment Station. Fieldwork for the inventory was completed in May 1983. This is one of several papers that will present resource statistics for Nebraska.

Sampling error for Nebraska's total growing-stock volume of 456,011 thousand cubic feet is estimated to be  $\pm$  9 percent. Sawtimber sampling error is estimated to be  $\pm$  9 percent for the total of 1.7 billion board feet.

<sup>4</sup>Net volume of live merchantable sawtimber trees (softwoods 9 inches d.b.h. or larger and hardwood 11 inches d.b.h. or larger) from the stump to a point in the central stem at which utilization for sawn products is limited by large branches, forks, or other defects, or by a top diameter outside bark of 7 inches for softwoods and 9 inches for hardwoods.

<sup>5</sup>International 1/4-inch rule.

WESTERN UNIT

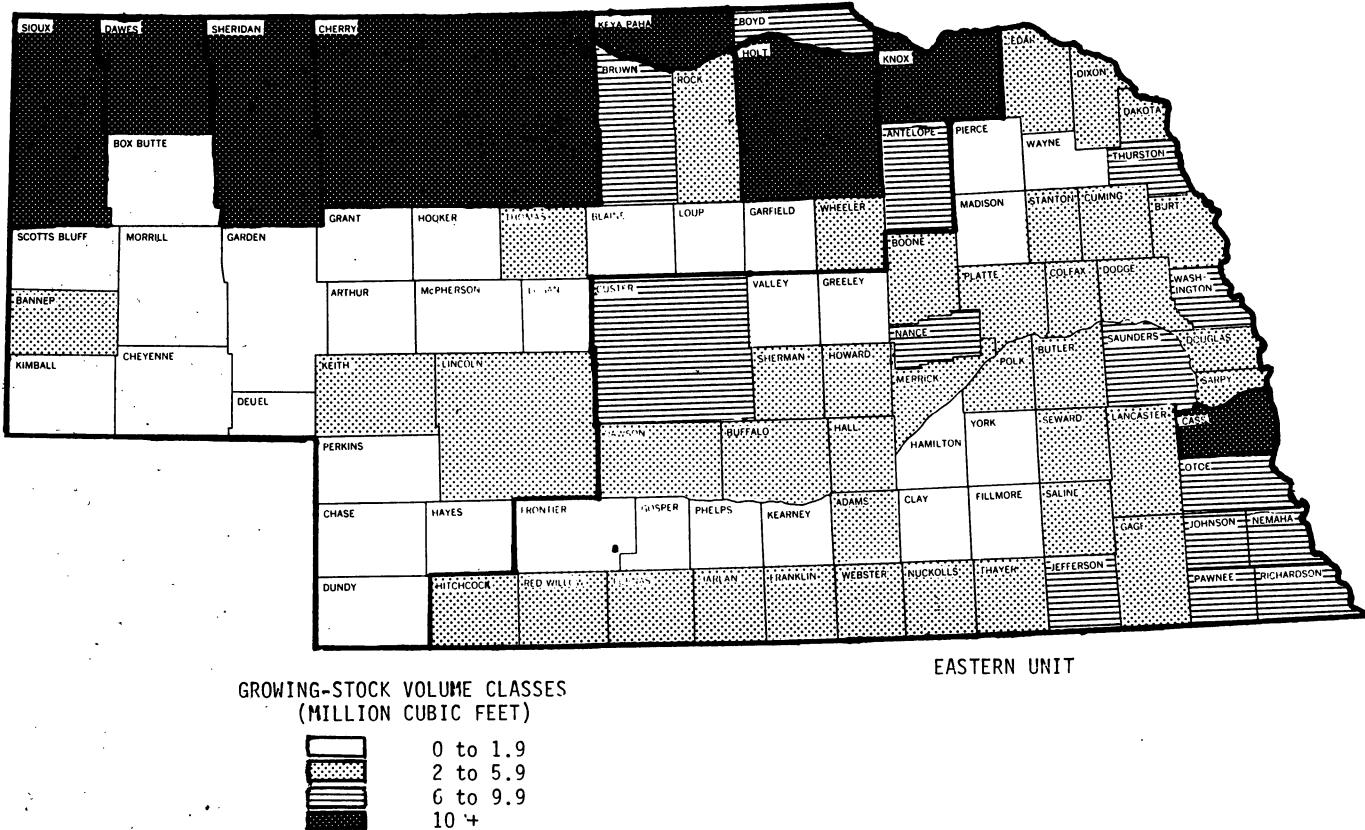


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<sup>5</sup>International 1/4-inch rule.

(Table 1 continued)

County	species	Ponderosa			Eastern			Soft			Species group			Black hardwoods <sup>1/</sup>	Other	
		pine	cedar	Oak	Hickory	Basswood	maple	Elm	Ash	wood	Willow	Boxelder	Cotton-			
Sherman	1,673	--	72	153	24	21	29	49	126	929	63	28	98	34	47	
Shawnee	2,656	--	93	149	13	52	44	132	394	1,214	93	59	264	92	57	
Shay	2,452	--	46	45	11	51	72	231	1,212	135	67	189	90	83	83	
Thayer	8,887	--	28	1,840	125	1,387	112	410	509	3,106	209	121	525	161	164	
Valley	670	--	14	51	11	14	13	20	61	327	37	23	54	23	22	
Washington	8,247	--	116	2,921	258	106	171	514	582	2,134	156	154	672	171	292	
Wayne	1,149	--	10	372	43	14	19	53	91	359	22	16	77	32	41	
Webster	5,699	--	128	604	85	96	186	343	612	2,641	232	125	409	98	140	
York	803	--	23	47	8	11	24	43	62	426	41	19	58	17	24	
Total	225,748	--	6,172	33,858	4,135	5,159	5,381	11,317	19,768	100,334	7,846	4,872	15,617	4,917	6,372	
WESTERN UNIT																
Antelope	7,718	1,206	257	1,178	--	--	35	--	85	630	3,930	241	21	67	11	57
Arthur	352	3,050	3	8	--	--	--	--	12	282	42	--	5	--	--	--
Banner	3,050	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
Blaine	994	74	26	211	--	8	--	5	104	530	15	3	9	1	8	
Box Butte	54	57	--	--	--	--	--	2	10	35	7	--	--	--	--	
Boyd	6,268	2,143	216	522	--	10	--	102	425	2,477	270	27	40	8	28	
Brown	7,273	3,367	284	881	--	210	--	25	355	1,746	87	59	91	42	126	
Chase	206	--	5	4	--	--	--	6	166	22	--	3	--	--	--	
Cherry	9,903	5,483	265	808	--	16	--	55	356	2,564	207	41	46	13	49	
Cheyenne	189	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	42	147	--	--	--	--	--	
Dawes	53,487	49,946	29	101	4	--	52	149	2,099	260	--	34	--	--	3	
Deuel	159	--	7	--	--	--	--	4	19	116	13	--	--	--	--	
Dundy	1,254	64	25	105	3	--	19	87	851	81	6	11	--	--	2	
Garden	1,529	215	19	4	--	--	--	5	263	21	2	--	--	--	--	
Garfield	1,316	407	31	145	4	--	1	64	600	43	3	11	1	1	6	
Grant	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
Hayes	587	275	13	14	--	--	14	39	206	22	3	--	--	--	1	
Holt	14,248	4,324	56	1,632	32	--	130	883	5,856	494	69	120	23	89	89	
Hooker	569	106	16	115	3	--	--	49	2,252	7	13	4	--	4	--	
Keith	2,571	--	70	52	1	--	104	174	1,936	194	--	19	--	1	1	
Keya Paha	10,957	6,025	430	1,121	--	17	--	64	439	2,465	194	48	51	24	79	
Kimball	397	397	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
Knox	15,989	3,957	681	2,178	--	446	--	106	1,059	6,474	435	55	254	82	262	
Lincoln	3,915	415	126	--	--	--	--	127	284	2,428	166	6	41	--	--	
Logan	515	231	48	85	1	--	10	26	90	4	6	9	1	4	--	
Loup	502	37	12	94	3	--	5	58	267	16	3	4	--	3	--	
McPherson	200	63	3	33	1	--	--	14	79	2	3	1	--	1	--	
Morrill	1,125	109	58	--	--	--	45	95	764	54	--	--	--	--	--	
Perkins	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
Rock	3,216	1,063	140	454	--	11	--	34	195	1,179	67	18	28	5	22	
Scotts Bluff	1,601	146	92	4	--	--	--	26	70	1,201	60	--	2	--	--	
Sheridan	34,562	33,319	22	143	4	--	--	22	133	802	89	8	12	1	7	
Sioux	41,945	40,608	47	201	6	--	47	127	798	683	21	12	2	8	--	
Thomas	3,739	3,229	17	125	4	--	--	52	293	4	6	5	--	4	--	
Wheeler	1,873	157	34	365	--	14	--	12	171	1,058	29	3	18	--	12	
Total	230,263	160,316	3,768	10,709	--	833	--	1,096	6,132	41,884	3,214	422	899	214	776	
All units	456,011	160,316	9,940	44,567	4,135	5,992	5,381	12,413	25,900	142,218	11,060	5,294	16,516	5,131	7,148	

Table 2.--Net volume of sawtimber on commercial forest land by county and species group, Nebraska, 1983  
(In thousand board feet)<sup>1/</sup>

County	All species	EASTERN UNIT										Species group					Other hardwoods <sup>2/</sup>
		Ponderosa pine	Eastern redcedar	Oak	Hickory	Basswood	Soft maple	Elm	Ash	Cottonwood	Willow	Boxelder	Hackberry	Black walnut			
Adams	5,708	--	98	1,188	30	105	107	146	789	2,354	184	98	429	151	69		
Bonne	5,478	--	12	1,296	55	137	138	222	900	1,732	226	184	344	122	110		
Buffalo	16,956	--	615	833	30	270	228	220	1,246	11,611	501	175	881	73	273		
Burt	10,661	--	110	2,762	95	308	77	262	1,222	4,166	218	262	611	206	172		
Butler	10,288	--	99	1,344	47	289	228	295	918	5,490	446	179	590	191	472		
Cass	30,726	--	498	4,398	172	909	777	865	4,375	18,765	1,297	563	2,202	483			
Cedar	11,292	--	164	3,343	137	650	90	282	1,513	3,124	162	467	814	116	430		
Clay	3,992	--	42	983	11	65	29	69	500	1,758	95	43	283	144	70		
Colfax	7,614	--	65	1,110	6	137	44	129	864	4,059	274	127	409	166	224		
Cuming	17,959	--	26	2,173	95	577	354	398	1,565	10,272	586	208	994	222	289		
Custer	25,652	--	459	4,412	73	1,588	222	374	3,673	10,988	649	888	1,478	260	548		
Dakota	14,731	--	120	3,641	98	348	241	358	1,841	5,809	432	310	1,047	181	305		
Dawson	10,869	--	533	659	7	108	61	110	591	7,742	255	107	411	90	195		
Dixon	13,477	--	94	4,848	230	499	33	382	1,784	2,944	98	534	1,092	164	775		
Dodge	18,490	--	388	1,268	57	507	336	281	1,653	11,817	576	134	1,166	158	269		
Douglas	15,566	--	32	4,638	169	293	242	536	1,602	5,239	485	386	1,091	338	515		
Fillmore	2,013	--	26	209	8	63	41	43	387	946	71	54	122	17	26		
Franklin	8,132	--	51	1,775	64	199	122	215	1,187	3,273	230	187	494	134	201		
Frontier	3,116	--	17	755	27	83	71	113	251	1,258	128	74	204	65	70		
Furnas	9,548	--	226	31	226	172	171	708	1,138	315	89	521					
Gage	17,332	--	50	4,519	147	423	330	563	3,263	5,140	561	551	1,118	323	344		
Gosper	988	--	16	115	--	31	9	17	93	536	40	23	64	15	29		
Greeley	600	--	17	72	--	49	7	8	39	293	24	26	46	3	16		
Hall	10,677	--	367	618	27	282	164	128	693	7,384	273	67	528	37	129		
Hamilton	4,565	--	90	537	5	148	42	64	421	2,638	141	70	231	65	93		
Harlan	6,369	--	62	751	--	64	49	110	696	3,589	258	97	376	126	191		
Hitchcock	7,421	--	31	1,383	45	153	168	240	995	3,099	306	149	528	217	107		
Howard	8,376	--	100	977	--	147	68	142	869	4,663	342	153	516	149	250		
Jefferson	27,636	--	282	4,427	126	971	516	645	5,167	11,330	910	767	1,734	407	354		
Johnson	19,692	--	213	2,479	96	575	439	533	2,115	9,991	795	354	1,377	423			
Kearney	3,001	--	6	11	--	5	6	24	187	16	6	26	2	11			
Lancaster	14,673	--	155	1,655	73	375	352	414	1,350	8,003	622	214	953	290	217		
Madison	4,978	--	50	622	--	75	36	84	543	1,738	197	82	287	99	145		
Merrick	11,070	--	460	867	33	234	131	161	624	7,462	267	124	461	85	161		
Nance	21,367	--	277	2,243	80	461	435	532	1,842	12,281	901	310	1,290	314	401		
Nemaha	18,021	--	175	2,492	10	337	118	307	1,984	9,691	672	316	1,014	370	535		
Nuckolls	13,331	--	293	1,170	63	374	307	314	928	8,212	487	159	735	130	159		
Otoe	25,381	--	256	3,491	141	585	632	850	2,184	13,298	1,173	455	1,389	548	379		
Pawnee	20,287	--	450	1,627	79	558	422	414	1,666	12,486	718	259	1,116	152	280		
Phelps	1,277	--	14	350	14	28	15	25	96	555	19	16	97	7	41		
Pierce	3,694	--	91	338	--	192	45	59	260	1,981	167	128	298	21	114		
Platte	13,012	--	163	1,471	72	386	340	356	1,007	7,417	528	166	792	157	157		
Polk	6,497	--	145	609	13	191	75	72	1,013	3,710	146	97	300	49	77		
Red Willow	9,644	--	161	870	41	255	213	219	755	5,847	366	110	567	99	141		
Richardson	21,375	--	205	2,590	--	243	158	364	2,347	11,979	857	329	1,242	427	634		
Saline	17,456	--	206	1,906	96	468	457	520	1,399	9,796	775	265	1,070	253	251		
Sarpy	14,070	--	114	4,461	188	268	188	460	1,517	4,317	321	400	1,005	212	539		

(Table 2 continued on next page)

<sup>1/</sup> International 1/4-inch rule.

<sup>2/</sup> Other hardwoods - Texas Buckeye, paper birch, honeylocust, kentucky coffeetree, mulberry, osage orange, catalpa, black locust

(Table 2 continued)

County	Species	Species group									
		All Ponderosa pine	Eastern redcedar	Oak	Hickory	Basswood	Soft maple	Elm	Ash	Cottonwood	Black walnut
Saunders	19,335	--	574	1,219	51	392	326	330	1,261	655	217
Seward	12,293	--	104	1,537	70	301	320	399	1,155	6,347	209
Sherman	5,175	--	118	490	13	91	58	53	3,242	155	53
Stanton	8,482	--	161	587	17	254	113	96	1,454	4,379	216
Thayer	7,489	--	104	601	--	39	83	135	712	4,440	130
Thurston	27,698	--	382	5,024	47	5,244	190	1,175	10,790	10,735	562
Valley	2,083	--	39	181	--	55	24	35	1,176	283	1,517
Washington	24,281	--	106	8,732	249	487	344	722	2,299	7,183	53
Wayne	3,334	--	--	1,053	26	50	20	85	1,207	608	560
Webster	18,148	--	188	2,141	90	449	431	486	2,418	9,337	721
York	2,551	--	40	194	9	54	58	61	1,96	1,539	331
Total	688,126	--	10,044	106,677	3,363	22,650	11,301	16,679	73,619	350,427	12,823
WESTERN UNIT											
Antelope	27,919	6,108	328	3,701	--	181	--	79	1,449	15,264	578
Arthur	1,222	--	--	40	--	--	--	--	59	1,040	58
Banner	14,094	14,094	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Blaine	3,510	377	19	654	40	--	--	253	2,085	73	--
Box Butte	166	--	--	--	40	--	--	33	1,100	33	--
Boyd	24,085	10,681	500	1,535	--	51	--	57	1,217	9,028	861
Brown	29,189	16,798	444	2,578	--	700	--	--	920	7,058	224
Chase	730	--	14	20	--	--	--	29	625	29	--
Cherry	41,639	27,107	423	2,450	81	--	34	929	9,885	481	--
Cheyenne	601	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	601	7,437	421
Dawes	248,606	239,628	30	395	12	--	69	477	7,137	137	--
Deuel	546	--	29	--	--	--	--	63	391	63	--
Dundy	4,437	320	59	339	17	--	22	246	3,228	169	37
Garden	2,128	72	20	--	--	--	--	29	1,019	28	--
Garfield	5,163	2,014	42	462	23	--	173	2,345	66	24	6
Grant	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Hayes	2,381	1,363	39	38	--	--	--	11	106	716	104
Holt	54,227	21,645	1,237	4,904	176	--	57	2,158	22,436	1,135	197
Hooker	2,101	535	25	335	17	--	--	117	1,033	35	--
Keith	8,879	30,055	234	223	6	--	--	136	451	7,318	425
Keya Paha	45,798	30,055	662	3,384	90	--	--	133	1,161	9,611	437
Kimball	1,893	1,893	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Knox	59,087	19,824	1,271	6,541	--	1,523	--	12	2,676	25,279	925
Lincoln	14,087	20,051	1,358	132	--	--	--	33	798	8,310	805
Logan	1,976	1,165	152	205	6	--	--	51	366	17	--
Loup	1,743	1,192	10	289	17	--	--	149	1,009	73	--
McPherson	781	312	--	98	6	--	--	35	321	9	--
Morrill	4,040	463	235	--	--	--	45	253	2,787	267	--
Perkins	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Rock	12,356	5,288	286	1,343	57	--	--	--	--	--	--
Scotts Bluff	6,092	623	370	20	--	--	21	213	4,634	115	25
Sheridan	165,662	161,587	19	452	23	--	12	372	4,619	215	11
Sioux	204,763	200,459	64	591	23	--	58	295	2,899	266	24
Thomas	17,097	15,344	24	380	22	--	--	118	3,049	177	25
Wheeler	6,749	781	10	1,150	74	--	12	397	1,188	17	13
Total	1,013,747	781,654	7,956	32,279	--	3,145	--	713	15,689	160,520	8,225
All units	1,711,873	781,654	18,000	138,956	3,363	25,795	11,301	17,392	89,308	510,947	31,457
											1,717
											791
											1,058
											15,172