SOCIOECONOMIC PROFILE FOR

EAST AND WEST LINCOLN COUNTY STUDY AREAS

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO
SOCIOECONOMIC PROFILE FOR
EAST AND WEST LINCOLN COUNTY STUDY AREAS

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Introduction

Local communities need accurate and current information to help plan and make important decisions. This report was prepared to provide a socioeconomic profile for East and West Lincoln Study Areas of Lincoln County. The information presented is intended to provide interested parties with a variety of demographic, social, economic and housing data for each of two areas of the county. The data results of this study can be used for background material for the Lincoln County Tourism Strategic Plan and/or a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) in Lincoln County.

East Lincoln Study Area (ELSA) consists of the Census Bureau’s Zip Code Tabulation Areas (ZCTAs) 89043 (Pioche), 89042 (Panaca) and 89008 (Caliente). The West Lincoln Study Area (WLSA) consists of ZCTAs 89001 (Alamo) and 89017 (Hiko). A small number of people in Lincoln County live in ZCTA 890XX. Because 890XX includes parts of several other counties, these individuals are not included in the estimates for either of the two areas. See Figure 1 for a map of Lincoln County ZCTAs. Original underlying data for these two areas are from U. S. Census 2000 data in Summary Files 1, 3 and 4. University Center for Economic Development calculated sums and averages for the areas using the Census Bureau ZCTA data.

For comparison, data for East and West Lincoln County Study Areas are displayed with statistics for Lincoln County as a whole, the State of Nevada and the United States. County, state and national level statistics are from the same Census Bureau summary files. The source of all information is indicated under each graph.

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1 Zip Code Tabulation Areas do not exactly correspond to U.S. Postal Service ZIP codes. Also, Zip Code Tabulation Areas do not correlate with other Census Bureau geography levels such as states, counties, census tracts and so forth and are not comparable over time. For more information see http://www.census.gov/geo/www/tiger/tigermap.html#ZIP.

2 Data in Summary File 1 is 100% data from the Census short-form which attempts to canvas each household in the United States and includes very basic information such as race, age and sex. Data in Summary File 3 is sample data from the Census long-form given to approximately 1 in 6 households in the nation, which is then weighted so as to represent the entire population. Summary File 3 and 4 contain more detailed information such as income, education and occupation.
Census Bureau ZCTAs for Lincoln County

- **Eastern Lincoln County Study Area**
- **Western Lincoln County Study Area**
- **890XX (not included)**

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Cartographic Boundary Files
Population, Year 2000

Population is a count of total residents in an area. Residence refers to the “usual place” where a person lives, which is not necessarily the same as legal residence.

The total population for Lincoln County in 2000 was 4,165. East Lincoln County Study Area had an estimated population of 3,050 individuals, which was 73.23 percent of county population. The West Lincoln County region had an estimated 1,073 individuals, which was 25.75 percent of county population. An unallocated population for Lincoln County was 42 persons in 2000, which was 1.01 percent of total county population.
Population by Race, Year 2000

The Census Bureau tabulates race from self-identification of the respondent on the Census form. There are five basic race categories. They are White, Black or African American, American Indian or Alaskan Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and “other” race for persons who do not identify with one of the specified groups. For the first time, in Census 2000 persons may report more than one racial group.

Compared with the state and national percentages, Lincoln County has a lower percentage of individuals who are black, Asian and of “other” (unspecified) race, but a slightly higher percentage of American Indians.
**Population by Hispanic Origin, Year 2000**

Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Nevada has a higher proportion of Hispanic population (19.7%) than does the nation as a whole (12.5%). Lincoln County has a much lower proportion of Hispanic population than the national or state average. East Lincoln County Study Area (5.6%) has a somewhat higher percentage of Hispanics than does West Lincoln County Study Area (4.0%), according to Census Bureau data.

![Percent Population by Hispanic Origin, Year 2000](chart)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau SF1, Table P4
**Population by Age, Year 2000**

Age data is reported in the following graph for the nation, state of Nevada, Lincoln County, East Lincoln County Study Area, and West Lincoln County Study Area. In 2000, 12.4 percent and 11 percent of the nation’s and state of Nevada’s population was 65 years of age or older. However, proportionate shares for Lincoln County, East Lincoln County Study Area, and West Lincoln County Study Area were greater than the national and state shares. For Lincoln County, 16.2 percent of total county population as 65 years of age or older, while East Lincoln County Study Area and West Lincoln County Study Area were 16.7 percent and 15.1 percent, respectively, in 2000.

For the prime working age group of 25 to 44 years of age, the proportionate share for the nation and state of Nevada were 30.2 percent and 31.5 percent, respectively, in 2000. Lincoln County, East Lincoln County Study Area, and West Lincoln County Study Area had correspondingly smaller proportionate shares of total population in the prime working years of 25 to 44 years of age. For Lincoln County, 21.9 percent of total county population was 25 to 44 years of age in 2000, while East Lincoln County Study Area and West Lincoln County Study Area had proportionate shares of 22.0 percent and 21.5 percent, respectively.
Percent Population by Age Group, Year 2000

US | Nevada | Lincoln Co. | East Lincoln | West Lincoln
---|--------|-------------|--------------|-------------
Age 65+ | 12.4% | 11.0% | 16.2% | 16.7% | 15.1%
Age 55-64 | 8.6% | 9.5% | 13.0% | 13.3% | 12.3%
Age 45-54 | 13.4% | 13.5% | 12.9% | 12.8% | 13.2%
Age 25-44 | 30.2% | 31.5% | 21.9% | 22.0% | 21.5%
Age 15-24 | 13.9% | 12.9% | 14.4% | 14.4% | 14.0%
Under Age 14 | 21.4% | 21.7% | 21.7% | 20.9% | 23.9%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau SF1, Table P12
Median Age, Year 2000

In 2000, the median age of the total population for the county was 38.8 years, which is higher than the U.S. median age of 35.3 years and the state median age of 35 years. Median age is reported for each ZCTA area, showing the variation between areas. The median ranges from a low of 35.3 years of age in the Caliente Area to a high of 41.1 years of age for the Pioche Area.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau SF1, Table P13
Population by Highest Level of Educational Attainment, Year 2000

Educational attainment shows the highest level of education completed by persons who are 25 years old or older. Educational attainment provides insight into the type of workforce available and provides some indication of an area’s educational system.

In 2000, 24.4% of the population who are at least 25 years old in the U.S. had a bachelor’s degree or higher, while 19.6% of the population had not completed high school. In Lincoln County, only 15% of the population who are at least 25 years old had a bachelor’s or higher degree, while 17% of the population had not completed high school. For Lincoln County a larger proportion of the population fell into the middle categories, having completed high school, taken some college or received an associate degree. In the West Lincoln County Study Area, an even larger proportion of the population fell into these middle categories.

Lincoln County, East Lincoln County Study Area, and West Lincoln County Study Area had 15 percent, 15.6 percent, and 13.6 percent, respectively, of persons 25 years of age or older with a bachelor’s degree or higher. However, to compete in the “new economy,” a highly educated local labor force is essential. The national proportionate share of population 25 years of age and older with a bachelor’s degree or higher is 24.4 percent. Therefore, it will be difficult for Lincoln County to compete in the “new economy” with the education level of its local labor force. Hence, tourism may offer the best opportunity for diversification as compared to manufacturing relocation.
Percent Population 25 or Older by Highest Level of Educational Attainment, Year 2000

Source: U. S. Census Bureau, SF3, P37
Total Households & Average Household Size, Year 2000

Total households are all occupied housing units. Average household size is calculated by dividing total persons in households by the number of households.³

In 2000, it was reported that there were 1,140 households in the East Lincoln County Study Area, with an average household size of 2.37 persons. The West Lincoln County Study Area contained an estimated 386 households with a larger average household size of 2.78 persons. Average household size for the state of Nevada was between the estimates for East and West Lincoln County Study Areas at 2.62 persons per household.

³ Individuals in group quarters such as nursing homes, prisons or dormitories are not included.
Household Characteristics, Year 2000

The Census Bureau defines two types of households: nonfamily and family. A family contains at least two members related by blood, marriage or adoption. A nonfamily household can be either a person living alone or sharing a housing unit with nonrelatives only. Family households can be maintained either by a married couple or by a man or woman living with other relatives. In 2000, 51.7% of the total households in the U.S. were family households that contained a married couple with or without children. The West Lincoln County Study Area has a somewhat larger proportion of married couple households with and without children (66.1%) than does the East Lincoln County Study Area (53.0%).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau SF1: P18
Households with Person 65+, Year 2000

In 2000, 23.4% of total households in the U.S. included a person who was 65 years or older. In Lincoln County, 31.9% of households included a person who was 65 years or older. The East Lincoln County Study Area had a higher proportionate share of households with persons 65 years of age or older (34.8%) than the West Lincoln County Study Area (31.6%). However, proportionate shares for Lincoln County and the two sub-county study areas were higher than that of Nevada (21.3%) and national (23.4%) averages.

Percent of Households with person(s) 65+

- United States: 23.4%
- Nevada: 21.3%
- Lincoln Co.: 31.9%
- E. Lincoln: 34.8%
- W. Lincoln: 31.6%

Sources: Census Bureau SF1: P23
Household income includes the total income received in the calendar year of all household members aged 15 years and older. Income sources include wages, self-employment, interest and dividends, Social Security, public assistance, retirement, disability, and other sources such as alimony, child support and unemployment.

In 1999, 29% of the households in the U.S. had household income less than $25,000, while 41.4% of the households in Lincoln County had household income less than $25,000. The West Lincoln County Study Area had a smaller proportion of households with an income of less than $25,000 (31.9%) than did the East Lincoln County Study Area (45%). Of interest is for the West Lincoln County Study Area, 13.2 percent of households had household incomes of between $75,000 to $99,999. This value was higher than the county, state of Nevada, and national averages.

### Households by Income Category, Year 1999

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Category</th>
<th>U. S.</th>
<th>Nevada</th>
<th>Lincoln</th>
<th>East Lincoln</th>
<th>West Lincoln</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$100,000 or more</td>
<td>12.3%</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$75,000 to $99,999</td>
<td>10.2%</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50,000 to $74,999</td>
<td>19.5%</td>
<td>21.7%</td>
<td>22.4%</td>
<td>19.8%</td>
<td>30.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$25,000 to $49,999</td>
<td>29.3%</td>
<td>31.2%</td>
<td>25.2%</td>
<td>26.1%</td>
<td>23.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than $24,999</td>
<td>28.7%</td>
<td>24.7%</td>
<td>41.4%</td>
<td>45.0%</td>
<td>31.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau SF 3: P52
Average Household Income & Per Capita Income, Year 1999

Average household income represents the mean of the income distribution. It is calculated from the aggregate of total household income divided by all households in the distribution. Per capita income is the average income for all persons, calculated from total income of persons 15 years and older.

Average household income in the East Lincoln County Study Area was $38,417, while the West Lincoln County Study Area had a higher average household income of $44,029. Both were lower than the U.S. average, $56,643 per household or Nevada’s average, $57,469 per household. Per capita income is slightly higher in East Lincoln County Study Area than in West Lincoln County Study Area at $17,325 and $16,947, respectively.

Sources: U.S. Census SF3: P1, P54, P82, P83
**Labor Force & Unemployment, Year 2000**

Labor force includes civilian employed, unemployed, and the U.S. Armed Forces 16 years and over. Employed includes all persons who were at work or temporarily absent. Unemployed are persons seeking work in the previous 4 weeks and able to work. An unemployment rate is total unemployed divided by the sum of civilian employed plus unemployed persons.\(^4\)

In 2000, Lincoln County had 1,538 persons in the labor force. The unemployment rate for the county was approximately 5.2%. The unemployment rate in the West Lincoln County Study Area was estimated to be lower than the unemployment rate in East Lincoln County Study Area at 2.8% and 6.3% respectively. Comparable unemployment rates from Census 2000 for the U.S. and Nevada were 5.8% and 6.2% respectively.

```
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Lincoln Co.</th>
<th>East Lincoln Co.</th>
<th>West Lincoln Co.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total 2000 Labor Force</td>
<td>1538</td>
<td>1067</td>
<td>465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment Rate</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau SF 4: DP3

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**Labor Force Participation Rate, Year 2000**

Labor force participation rate is persons in the labor force divided by the total population aged 16 and over. Homemakers, retired people, students and those who were in the labor force but are no longer actively pursuing employment are some of the people who make up the local population that was not participating in the labor force.

Lincoln County has a lower estimated labor participation rate (49.0%) than does the state of Nevada (65.2%) or the United States (63.9%). The East Lincoln County Study Area has a lower participation rate (45.7%) than does the West Lincoln County Study Area (58.9%).
**Labor Force Characteristics, Year 2000**

Labor force characteristics are reported for persons 16 years and older who were employed during the reference week, which is the week preceding enumeration. “White collar” is defined to include management and professional jobs as well as sales, office and administrative support occupations. Blue collar includes construction, extraction, maintenance, production, transportation or material moving occupations.

In 2000, the State of Nevada labor force was 53.3% white collar, 24.6% service, and 21.8% blue collar. When compared to the state, both East and West Lincoln County Study Areas had a higher percentage of the workforce that was employed in farming, fishing and forestry jobs and in blue collar jobs. East Lincoln County Study Area had a higher proportion of white collar jobs than did the state, whereas West Lincoln County Study Area had a much lower proportion of white collar jobs.

![Employed Population by Occupation, Year 2000](chart)

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau SF4: DP3
Civilian Employed Population by Industry

Employed persons were also classified by industry from information given on the Census 2000 long form. The North American Industry Classification System was used to categorize the type of work in which the person’s employer was engaged.

For Lincoln County, 7.3% of total county employment worked in agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting or mining industries as compared to 1.6% for the state of Nevada. When compared to the state of Nevada, construction, retail trade, transportation, warehousing and utilities, information, education, health and social services and public administration in Lincoln County also had a larger proportionate share of total county employment. The West Lincoln County Study Area had a higher percentage of total employment in agricultural, forestry, fishing and hunting, mining, construction, manufacturing and professional industries than did the East Lincoln County Study Area.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDUSTRY</th>
<th>United States</th>
<th>Nevada</th>
<th>Lincoln Co.</th>
<th>East Lincoln</th>
<th>West Lincoln</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
<td>9.2%</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
<td>20.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>14.1%</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale trade</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail trade</td>
<td>11.7%</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
<td>14.6%</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation and warehousing, and utilities</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional, scientific, management, administrative,</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
<td>8.8%</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and waste management services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational, health and social services</td>
<td>19.9%</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
<td>21.5%</td>
<td>21.5%</td>
<td>21.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
<td>26.3%</td>
<td>10.6%</td>
<td>10.6%</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other services (except public administration)</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public administration</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
<td>14.8%</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: U.S. Census SF4: DP3
**Workers by Place of Work, 2000**

Employed persons, both civilian and military, were asked to give the address of their workplace on the Census long-form. Data given is for workers 16 years of age or older.

From the below graph, 93.6% and 81.6% of East Lincoln County Study Area and West Lincoln County Study Area, respectively, workers 16 years of age and older worked in Lincoln County. Approximately 4.1% of workers 16 years of age or older in the West Lincoln County Study Area worked outside Lincoln County, but in the state of Nevada as compared to 4.4% for the Eastern Lincoln County Study Area. Approximately 4.2% of workers 16 years of age or older in the West Lincoln County Study Area lived in Lincoln County, but worked in another state of the United States as compared to 2.0% for the Lincoln County Study Area.

**Workers 16 and Over by Place of Work**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>U.S.</th>
<th>NV</th>
<th>Lincoln</th>
<th>East Lincoln</th>
<th>West Lincoln</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Worked outside state of residence</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worked outside county of residence inside state of residence</td>
<td>23.1%</td>
<td>94.8%</td>
<td>89.7%</td>
<td>93.6%</td>
<td>81.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worked in county of residence</td>
<td>73.3%</td>
<td>94.8%</td>
<td>89.7%</td>
<td>93.6%</td>
<td>81.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau SF4: QT-P25
Housing Characteristics, Year 2000

Total housing units are all occupied and vacant units, year-round and seasonal. Average home value is obtained by dividing the aggregate value of all owner-occupied units by total owner-occupied housing units. Home value is the homeowner’s estimate of value, for owner-occupied units which include only one-family houses on less than 10 acres without a business or medical office on the property.

In 2000, there were 2,178 total housing units in Lincoln County. The estimated average home value in the county was $97,085 as compared to the Nevada average of about $157,000 in the year 2000. The average home value for the East Lincoln County Study Area ($98,725) is higher than the West Lincoln County Study Area ($91,457).

![Average Home Value and Total Housing Units, Year 2000](chart.png)

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau SF3: H6, H84, H86
Housing Occupancy, Year 2000

Occupied housing units are considered as occupied if the persons living there at the time of enumeration did not have a usual home elsewhere. Occupancy rate is calculated by dividing total occupied units by total housing units.

In 2000, the U.S. had a 91% occupancy rate. The county had a much lower estimated occupancy rate of 70.7%. West Lincoln County Study Area had a higher occupancy rate (77.7%) than did East Lincoln County Study Area (70.6%). However, these sub-county occupancy rates were lower than the state of Nevada or national averages.
Type of Housing Vacancy, Year 2000

Total vacant housing units include the number of housing units vacant year-round plus the number of housing units that are vacant seasonally. Vacant housing units are considered as vacant if unoccupied or if the occupants had a usual home elsewhere at the time of enumeration.

In 2000, the U.S. had 5.7% of its total housing stock vacant year-round and 3.3% vacant seasonally, for a 9% total vacancy rate. In contrast, Lincoln County had 15.7% of total housing units vacant year-round and 13.6% vacant seasonally for a much higher 29.3% total vacancy rate. The West Lincoln County Study Area had a lower proportion of total housing units that were vacant seasonally (4%) than did the East Lincoln County Study Area (14.8%) and a higher proportion of year round vacancies (18.3%) as compared to the West Lincoln County Study Area (14.6%). An especially high proportion of homes in the Pioche area were reported to be seasonally vacant (28.7%).

![Total, Seasonal and Year Round Vacancy, Year 2000](chart)
SUMMARY

- Lincoln County as divided into East and West Lincoln County by zip codes. East Lincoln County consisted of the Census Bureau’s Zip Code Tabulation Areas (ZCTAs) 89043 (Pioche), 89402 (Panaca), and 89008 (Caliente). The West Lincoln County Study Area consists of ZCTAs 89001 (Alamo) and 89017 (Hiko). A small number of people in Lincoln County live in ZCTA 890XX. Because 890XX includes parts of several other counties, these individuals are not included in the estimates for either of these two areas.

- In 2000, total population in Lincoln County was 4,165. East Lincoln County Study Area had 3,050 individuals, or 73.23 percent of total county population. West Lincoln County Study Area had 1,073 individuals, or 25.75 percent of total county population. Approximately 42 persons were unallocated in Lincoln County and made up only 1.01 percent of total county population.

- Compared with the state and national proportionate shares, Lincoln County had a lower percentage of individuals who are Black, Asian, and “Other” Specified Race, but a slightly higher percentage of Native Americans.

- Proportion of population that is Hispanic for the state of Nevada and the nation in 2000 was 19.7 percent and 12.5 percent, respectively. Proportionate share of total population that is Hispanic in Lincoln County, East Lincoln County Study Area, and West Lincoln County Study Area were much lower at 5.3 percent, 5.6 percent, and 4.0 percent, respectively.

- In 2000, 12 percent and 11 percent of the nation’s and state of Nevada’s population was 65 years of age or older. Lincoln County, East Lincoln County Study Area, and West Lincoln County Study Area had proportionate shares of 16.2 percent, 16.7 percent, and 15.1 percent for persons 65 years of age or older in 2000. This would indicate an older population in Lincoln County and the sub-county areas of Lincoln County.

- In 2000, 30.2 percent and 31.5 percent of the nation’s and state of Nevada’s population, respectively, were 25 to 44 years of age. This age group is commonly called the “prime working age group.” Lincoln County, East Lincoln County Study Area, and West Lincoln County Study Area had correspondingly smaller proportionate shares of the prime working age group with 21.9 percent, 22.0 percent, and 21.5 percent, respectively, in 2001. This is often a characteristic of rural America where the best educated and trained leave rural areas for the metropolitan areas of the nation.

- Median age for Lincoln County in 2000 was 38.8 years of age, with the community of Pioche having the oldest median age in Lincoln County of 41.1 years of age in 2000 as compared to the community of Caliente with the youngest median age in Lincoln County of 35.3 years of age in 2000.

- Median age for Lincoln County was older than the national and state averages of 35.3 years of age and 35.0 years of age, respectively.
• In 2000, 24.4 percent of the national population 25 years of age or older graduated from college or higher education levels. However, only 15 percent, 15.6 percent, and 13.6 percent of Lincoln County, East Lincoln County Study Area, and West Lincoln County Study Area, respectively, of persons 25 years of age and older had a Bachelor’s degree or higher. This would indicate that Lincoln County and the county’s sub-areas have difficulty competing in the new economy.

• Average household size for East Lincoln County Study Area and West Lincoln County Study Area were 2.36 persons and 2.79 persons, respectively. For comparison, the national and state average household size were reported to be 2.59 persons and 2.62 persons, respectively.

• Approximately 31.9 percent, 34.8 percent, and 31.6 percent of Lincoln County, East Lincoln County Study Area, and West Lincoln County Study Area households, respectively, had persons 65 years or older.

• For Lincoln County, East Lincoln County Study Area, and West Lincoln County Study Area, 41.4 percent, 45.0 percent, and 31.0 percent of study area households, respectively, had household incomes of $25,000 or less. These proportionate share values for the county and the sub-county levels were higher than the national (28.7%) and state of Nevada (24.7%) averages.

• For both East Lincoln County Study Area ($38,417) and West Lincoln County Study Area ($44,029), average household income was below the national ($56,604) and the state of Nevada’s ($55,463) average household income values.

• In Lincoln County, the Census 2000 unemployment rate was 5.2 percent. While the unemployment rate for East Lincoln County Study Area and the West Lincoln County Study Area was 6.3 percent and 2.8 percent, respectively. For comparison, the Census 2000 unemployment rate for the nation and state of Nevada were 5.8 percent and 6.2 percent, respectively.

• Lincoln County (49.0%), East Lincoln County Study Area (45.7%), and West Lincoln County Study Area (58.7%) realized lower labor force participation rates as compared to national (63.9%) and state of Nevada (65.2%) rates.

• When compared to the national and state of Nevada proportionate shares of total employment in farming, fishing, and forestry jobs (0.7% for U.S. and 0.3% for state of Nevada) and blue collar jobs (24.1% for U.S. and 21.8% for state of Nevada), Lincoln County (3.4% in farming, fishing, and forestry and 25.7% blue collar), East Lincoln County Study Area (2.3% farming, fishing, and forestry and 23.8% blue collar) and West Lincoln County Study Area (5.8% farming, fishing, and forestry and 30.3% blue collar), respectively, had larger proportionate shares of total employment in 2000.

• For Lincoln County, East Lincoln County Study Area, and West Lincoln County Study Area, the Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting, and Mining Sector was 7.3%, 5.8%, and 9.5%, respectively, of study area employment as compared to the national and state of Nevada.
Nevada proportionate share in the economic sector of 1.9 percent and 1.6 percent, respectively.

- As for the Manufacturing Sector, the proportion of total employment nationally was 14.1 percent as compared to the state of Nevada share of 4.9 percent, Lincoln County share of 1.8 percent, East Lincoln County Study Area share of 1.4 percent, and West Lincoln County Study Area share of 2.7 percent. The state of Nevada and counties and sub-county areas of Nevada lag the nation in manufacturing employment.

- Approximately 89.7 percent, 93.6 percent, and 81.6 percent of Lincoln County, East Lincoln County Study Area, and West Lincoln County Study Area workers 16 years of age or older, respectively, work in Lincoln County.

- Approximately 8.9 percent, 4.4 percent, and 14.1 percent of workers 16 years of age or older in Lincoln County, East Lincoln County Study Area, and West Lincoln County Study Area, respectively, work outside of Lincoln County, but in another county.

- Approximately 1.4 percent, 2.0 percent, and 4.2 percent of workers 16 years of age or older in Lincoln County, East Lincoln County Study Area, and West Lincoln County Study Area, respectively, work outside of Lincoln County and outside the state of Nevada.

- In 2000, housing values in Lincoln County ($97,085), East Lincoln County Study Area ($98,725), and West Lincoln County Study Area ($91,457) were below the state of Nevada ($142,000) and national ($119,000) average in 2000.

- In 2000, the occupancy housing rate for Lincoln County (70.7%), East Lincoln County Study Area (70.6%), and West Lincoln County Study Area (77.7%) were lower than the state of Nevada (90.8%) and national rate (91.0%).

- The percentage seasonal housing vacancy in Lincoln County was 13.6 percent, East Lincoln County Study Area was 14.8 percent, and West Lincoln County Study Area was 4.0 percent, which were higher than the national and state of Nevada seasonal vacancy rates of 3.3 percent and 2.3 percent, respectively, in 2000.