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Lancaster County Tax Facts

Nebraskans already suffer the burden of exceedingly high property tax rates, at a time when average family incomes are not even keeping up with inflation, now is not the time to suggest Lancaster County taxpayers pay an even greater burden for local government.

- **The unemployment rate in Lancaster County has risen since April 2009 from 4.2% to 4.5%, which in total is 7,609 people and families – NE Department of Labor**
- **Nebraskans pay 12th highest rates of individual taxes in the country - Creighton University Economics Professor Ernie Goss.**
- **The State of Nebraska alone takes 10.47% of the average Nebraskans' income through Sales, Property and Individual Income taxes. This does not account for federal and local taxes - NE Department of Labor.**
- **Lincoln's 7% sales tax rate is a mixture of state (5.5%) and local (1.5%) taxes, with \$55.6 million going to the City budget. – Lincoln Partnership for Economic Development and City of Lincoln.**
- **Lancaster County's property tax rate is higher than the national average. Lancaster County taxpayers pay \$2,011.944/\$100, or \$2,011.994 for a \$100,000 home, when compared to the national average of \$1,838, Lancaster taxpayers pay over \$170 more than the national average - Platte Institute for Economic Research and Lancaster County Assessor's Office.**
- **Lancaster County's young people are leaving. Nebraska is the 10th most heavily out-migrated state for young, single, college-educated people. The reason is simple; from 1997 to 2005 the number of new jobs in Nebraska was 102,200 while the number of recent college graduates was 195,000. – U.S. Census Bureau and Platte Institute for Economic Research**
 - **Without enough jobs to go around, young people have created what we commonly refer to as the 'Brain Drain'. Raising taxes, which discourages business investment, will not lure new jobs to Lancaster County.**
- **Lancaster County Government grows much faster than the population warrants. In 2003 the County spent just over \$54.4 million and had a population of 260,007. In 2010, the proposed budget has grown to over \$86.3 million and the population hovers around 281,531 – Lancaster County Budget Office, US Census Bureau.**
 - **While the population of Lancaster County has grown by only 8.3%, the budget has grown by a whopping 58.4%!**