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Scottsbluff 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, Scottsbluff taxpayers must ensure that they are not asked to shoulder an even greater burden for local government.

- **The unemployment rate in Scottsbluff has risen since May 2009 from 5.0% to 5.2%, which in total is 1,068 people and families – NE Department of Labor**
- **Nebraskans pay the 12th highest rate 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 and Individual Income taxes. This does not account for federal and local taxes - NE Department of Labor.**
- **Scottsbluff's 7% sales tax rate is a mixture of state (5.5%) and local (1.5%) taxes, with \$5 million going to the City budget. – Nebraska Department of Nebraska Auditor of Public Accounts.**
- **Scottsbluff's average property tax rate is higher than the national average. The average Scottsbluff property taxpayer pays \$1,949/\$100, or \$1,949 for a \$100,000 home. When compared to the national average of \$1,838, Scottsbluff taxpayers pay over \$110 more than the national average - Platte Institute for Economic Research and Nebraska Department of Revenue.**
- **Scottsbluff'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 Scottsbluff.**
- **Scottsbluff city government has controlled spending. In the past 5 years the city's population has grown by 1%, to a population of 14,785, yet the city budget has grown only 0.83%. The 2010 city budget is \$7.7 million. – City of Scottsbluff, US Census Bureau.**