

# YORK COUNTY, NEBRASKA

## Coming Together to Grow Agribusiness, Logistics and Manufacturing



**T**here are many competitive advantages to York County, Nebraska – its central location, significant agricultural assets and skilled workforce. Check out these logistical assets: Interstate 80 and Highway 81 intersect in York County. Burlington Northern Santa Fe mainline travels east/west – which gives rail access to companies in York County. Available sites include two rail-served sites and between 30,000-90,000 sq. ft. buildings either for sale or lease. All sites are within five miles of Interstate 80. Manufacturers, agribusinesses and logistics/warehouse/distribution companies all benefit from the logistical infrastructure in York County.

### Logistics / Warehouse / Distribution Companies Connecting Well

York Cold Storage, with their on-going \$3 million expansion is a good example of how logistic companies grow in York County. Why? I-80 has four exits giving access to one of America’s heaviest east/west truck routes. In York, I-80 intersects with U.S. Highway 81, the Pan-American Expressway, and provides quick and easy access into Canada, the ports in Texas as well as the east and west coasts. One can truck shipments to 90 percent of the lower 48 states in two days or less. Because of this, truck sales and services are strong with York-based firms – such as Truck Center Companies, Sahling Kenworth, Good 2 Go Travel Center and many more.

### Manufacturers Have it Made Here

Manufacturers will find an existing workforce with skill sets in metal fabrication and advanced manufacturing.

York County has also developed a niche in clean advanced manufacturing including Cyclonaire and UTC Aerospace Systems. Metal manufacturers have the ability to access a supply of iron and steel from facilities in Nebraska while having the competitive advantage of the county’s well-connected logistics infrastructure.

### Where Agribusinesses Flourish

Considering the abundant water from the Ogallala aquifer, quality soil, prime growing conditions, and a strong customer base all make agribusiness a leading industry. Dow Agro-Sciences, DuPont Pioneer, Central Valley Ag, Aurora Cooperative, and a host of other companies with national and international ties make York County home. Many of these agribusinesses also have research and development facilities in the county.

### Skilled Workforce with Initiatives to Grow Future Workers

York County’s workforce draws from Lincoln and Grand Island giving its businesses access to a labor pool of over 300,000. In fact, the county has become a magnet for the commuting workforce with over 40 percent commuting from outside of the county to work. York is home to York College, a four-year liberal arts institution which recruits over 75 percent of their students from outside of Nebraska. Dr. Steve Eckman, York College’s President, estimates that 10 percent of the local workforce is York College alumni. In 2016, Southeast Community College will open a York Regional Learning Center focused on business and industry training. Three other colleges and four community

college campuses within an hour provide additional access to graduates and training for current workforce. York County Development Corporation (YCDC) and York County schools partner on workforce initiatives. York Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Mike Lucas said, “It is extremely important for York Public Schools to be able to expose our students to different job and career opportunities. Partnering with YCDC allows us to better expose our students to numerous opportunities.”

Businesses will find that York County offers reliable and low rates for electric and natural gas. Nebraska Public Power District, is the electric supplier to York and 86 of Nebraska’s 93 counties, including providing electricity to Perennial Public Power District. Electric generation is a diversified mix including coal, nuclear, wind, hydro and natural gas. For the past three years, electric reliability as measured by the Average Service Availability Index has exceeded 99.9 percent. Perennial provides reliable electric service to seven communities and all of the rural areas in York County. Black Hills Energy is the retail supplier for natural gas services, with Kinder Morgan being the transmission provider.

York County’s logistical infrastructure, skilled workforce and workforce initiatives, and existing manufacturing base all provide major competitive advantages for companies located in York County. For more information, visit [YorkDevCo.com](http://YorkDevCo.com). Or, contact Lisa Hurley (Executive Director at the York County Development Corporation) at 402-362-3333. 🏠