

# Dodge City Ford County



DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

{ Rankings & Trends

# Ford County Deemed Least Stressed County in Nation

*Below is an article written by John Green that was published in the Hutchinson News on March 26, 2010.*

As much of the nation continues to struggle with worsening economic conditions, Dodge City and Ford County are facing their own unique challenges.

The primary one, said Joann Knight, executive director of the Dodge City/Ford County Development Corp., is finding sufficient housing to enable people to come into the community to fill dozens of available jobs. A close second, she said, is finding the people to fill the jobs.

Ford County, a largely agricultural community that is widely recognized for its "Wild West" heritage, meatpacking operations and the site of the first state-run casino, also drew the distinction this week of being named the least economically stressed county in the nation.

Coming in fifth in the nationwide assessment of counties with more than 25,000 population was neighboring Finney County.

The Economic Stress Index, developed by The Associated Press to analyze conditions around the nation, develops a score based on a county's unemployment, foreclosure and bankruptcy rates. A higher score indicates more stress.

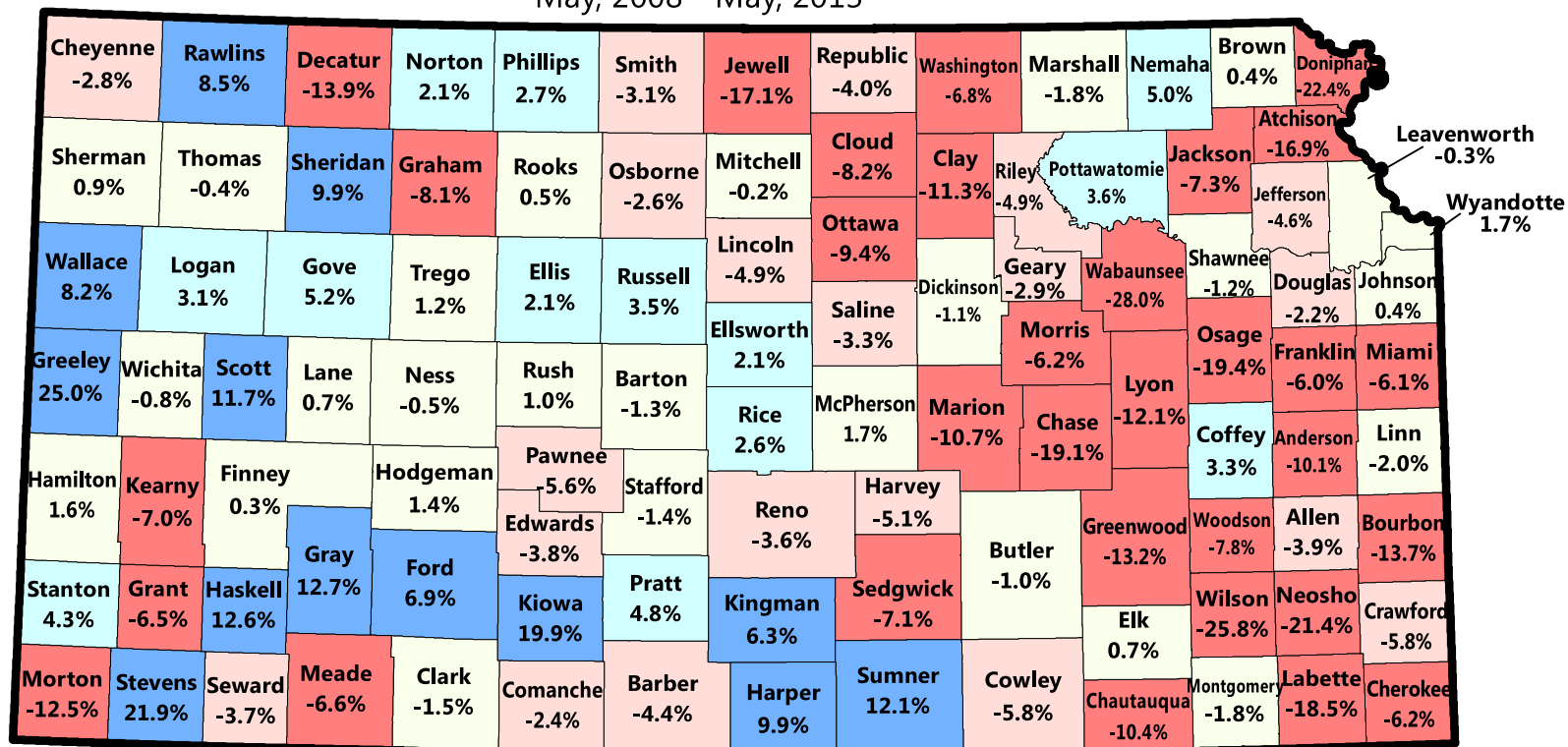


*(Charlie Riedel/Associated Press file photo) Patrons play craps at the Boot Hill Casino in Dodge City on its opening day. The casino has brought jobs to the region, and agriculture, meatpacking and construction have also contributed to the economic strength of Ford and Finney counties.*

# Job Growth and Decline

## Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

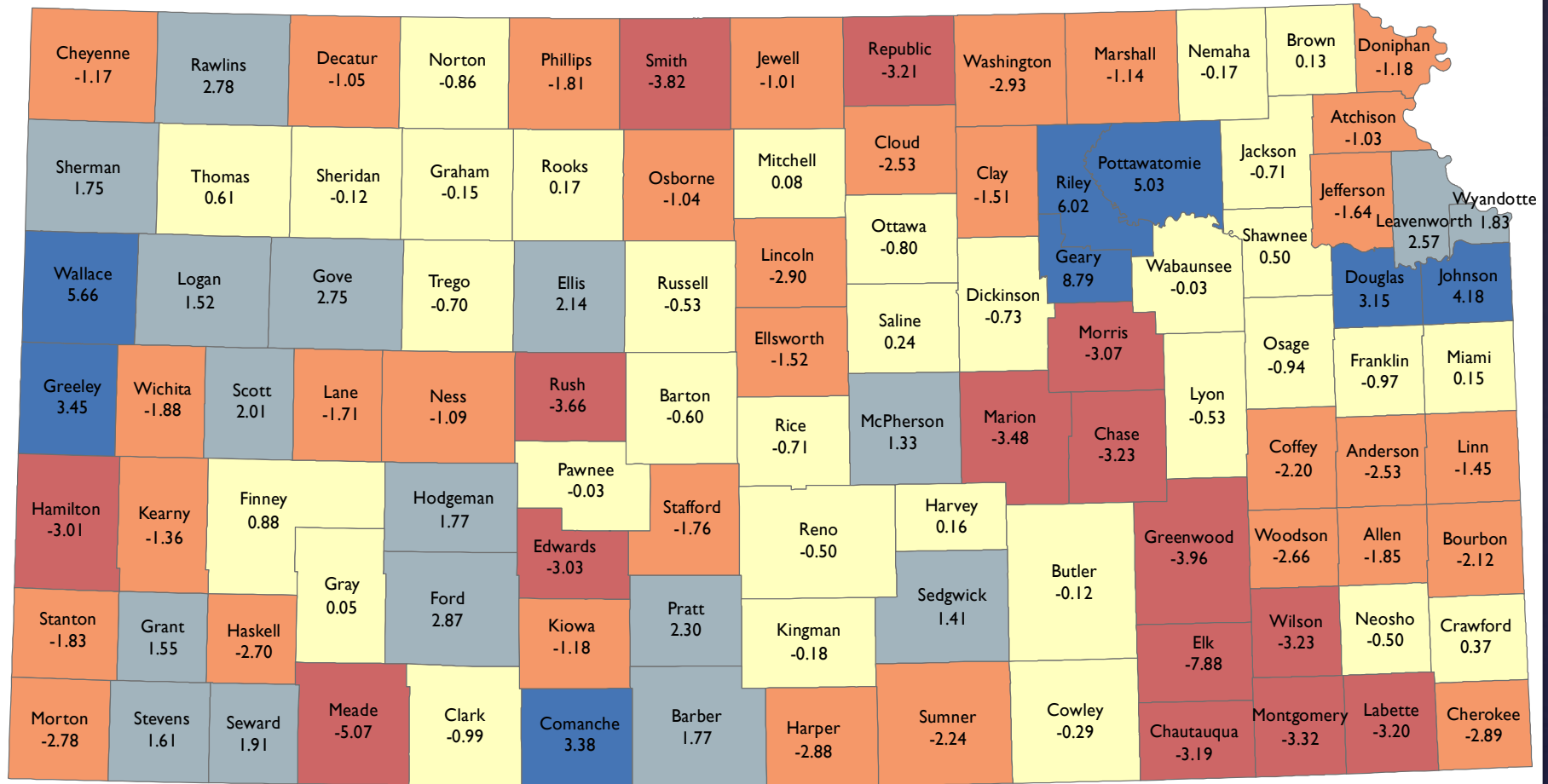
May, 2008 - May, 2013



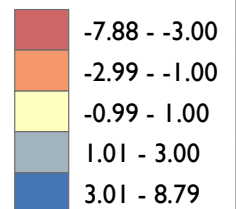
# Labor Force, Employment & Unemployment for Ford County in Multiple Time Periods

Time Period	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
May, 2008	17,468	16,923	545	3.1%
May, 2009	18,816	18,099	717	3.8%
May, 2010	18,936	18,184	752	4.0%
May, 2011	19,514	18,706	808	4.1%
May 2012	19,979	19,256	723	3.6%
May, 2013	19,878	19,081	797	4.0%
May, 2014	20,318	19,621	697	3.4%

# Percent Population Change in Kansas, by County April 2010 - July 2013



Source: Institute for Policy & Social Research, The University of Kansas;  
data from U.S. Census Bureau.



# Micropolitan Rankings for Kansas Cities

Dodge City	21
Junction City	59
Salina	104
Hays	191
Hutchinson	199
McPherson	204
Liberal	229
Garden City	273
Great Bend	319
Coffeyville	329
Ottawa	402
Emporia	413
Parsons	474
Pittsburg	508
Atchison	523



# Southwest Kansas Area Micropolitan Ranking Trend

- Dodge City

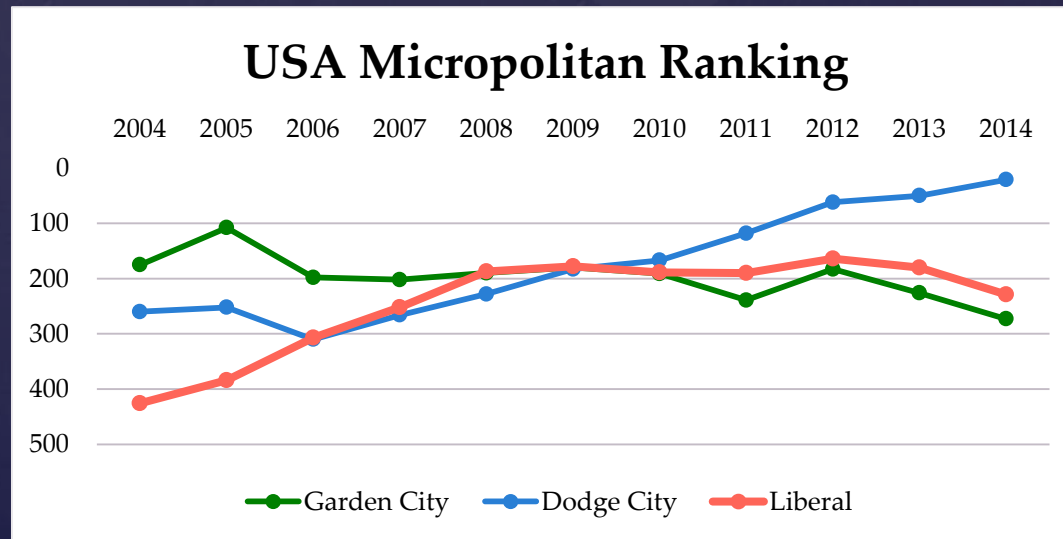
2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
260	252	310	266	228	183	167	118	62	50	21

- Garden City

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
175	108	198	202	190	180	191	239	183	226	273

- Liberal

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
426	384	307	252	187	178	189	190	164	180	229



DODGE CITY'S MICROPOLITAN RANKING BY POLICOM

# ECONOMIC STRENGTH *of Dodge City*

SPONSORED BY: THE DODGE CITY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND  
THE DODGE CITY/FORD COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM  
THURSDAY,  
**NOVEMBER 13**  
UNITED WIRELESS ARENA AND CONFERENCE CENTER

**CHAMBER MEMBERS \$15.00**  
**NON MEMBERS \$20.00**

## Luncheon Speaker



**WILLIAM FRUTH**

**PRESIDENT OF POLICOM CORPORATION**

POLICOM Corporation is an independent economics  
research firm located in Palm City, Florida, which  
specializes in studying the dynamics of local economies.

Reservations are required and may be made  
by contacting the Chamber office at (520) 227-3119;  
fax (520) 227-2957 or email [info@dodgechamber.com](mailto:info@dodgechamber.com) and  
online at [dodgechamber.com/events](http://dodgechamber.com/events)



# Questions