

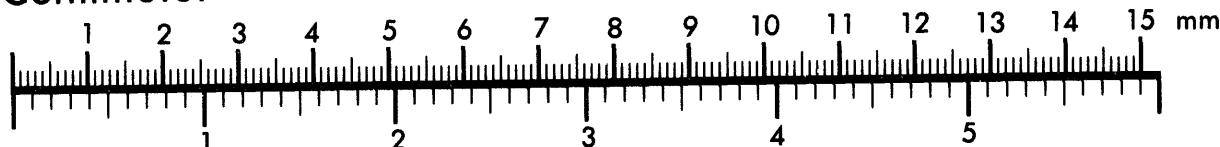


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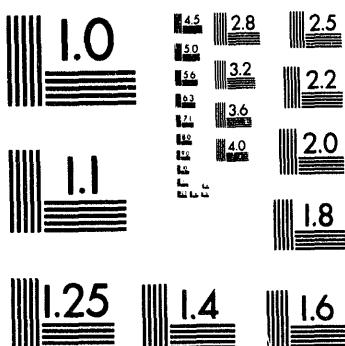
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Department of Energy: 1992-1993
Phase One Report to the

Lincoln County

Rural Migration in Nevada:

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**Rural Migration in Nevada:
Lincoln County**

**Phase One Report to the
Department of Energy: 1992-1993**

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**Submitted by
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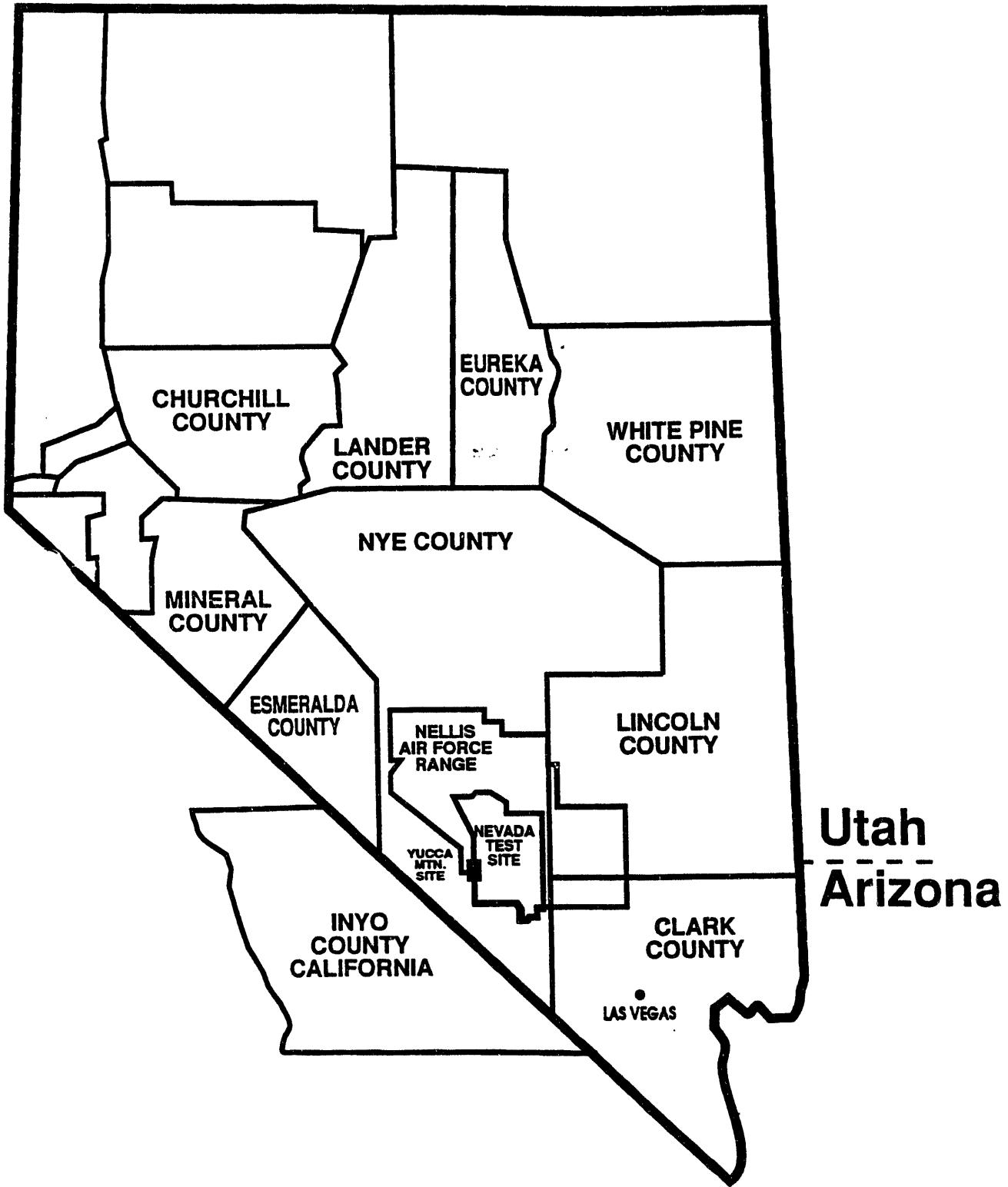
RURAL MIGRATION IN SOUTHERN NEVADA

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California



SECTION I: INTRODUCTION

The principal objective of this project was to develop insight into the scope of migration of working age Nevadans out of their county of birth; including the collection of data on their skill levels, desire to out or in-migrate, interactions between families of migratory persons, and the impact that the proposed high-level nuclear waste repository at Yucca Mountain might have on their individual, and collective, decisions to migrate and return. The initial phase of this project reported here was conducted in 1992 and 1993 in Lincoln County, Nevada, one of the counties designated as "affected" by the proposed repository program.

Lincoln County was purposely chosen for the first phase of this study because of its relative remoteness, its population concentration in the three communities of Caliente, Panaca and Pioche, and its small population base which allowed for using a variety of techniques and methodologies for examining issues relating to migration and subsequently being able to develop triangulation between those techniques.¹ The character of

¹ By triangulation, we mean the use of several different research methods to test the same phenomenon. By using such an approach, the bias of particular methodologies can be corrected

Lincoln County also provided the opportunity to develop a research design for use in further investigation of migration and rural issues in Nevada. In light of the magnitude of the proposed high-level nuclear waste repository, the following question provided direction for the study:

What impact will the proposed Yucca Mountain project have on decisions to remain, move or return, to rural communities in Nevada?

The procedures followed in the first year of this study, Phase One, used a traditional research design. In this regard, the first effort was to develop a synoptic review of the extant migration literature, and to a lesser degree the research concerning community values and the degree to which decisions to migrate might be affected (Section II). Following this, a brief history of the Lincoln County area was developed. While no means exhaustive, the historical approach utilized within the framework of migration theory demonstrated the "boom and bust" cycle of Lincoln County, and how in and out migration has had an impact in its development (Section III). In order to ascertain the general character of

for and validation of findings can be enhanced.

Lincoln County, a series of interviews were conducted among community leaders. These served as a valuable baseline for developing an understanding of the county and its residents, as well as helping to define some of the problems confronting the community (Section IV).

Using the background information, and the insights gained from the literature on migration, a telephone survey was conducted among households in Lincoln County about specific migration patterns among family members, and the degree to which the proposed Yucca Mountain repository might effect those decisions (Section V). In addition, the survey addressed the political and social culture of the county, as a first step in ascertaining how rural counties fit into the overall political and social culture in the state (Section VI). Complimenting the findings from among current residents, mail surveys were developed and sent to past residents of Lincoln County in order to develop a picture of the patterns and preferences of those who have already moved from Lincoln County (Section VII). Next, decisions among a youth cohort were explored. The impact of the proposed Yucca Mountain project on the youth segment of the population which, we believe, will be the most dramatic of all potential impacts. A preliminary investigation into their attitudes and values as they pertain to migration and the Yucca

Mountain issue provided an important first-step in systematically documenting the impact on this cohort group (Section VIII).

The findings reported here form the first phase of this study. As such it lays the groundwork for subsequent effort in the other affected counties and among the youth cohort statewide. The findings suggest that a serious out-migration problem in Lincoln County, and that the Yucca Mountain project will likely affect decisions relating to migration patterns in the future.

SECTION II: LITERATURE REVIEW

In this study, we seek to discover if the proposed high-level nuclear waste repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada, will alter migration patterns in one of the 2 counties identified as being the most affected by the proposed development-- Lincoln County. We undertake this study as part of the first phase in determining what the implications are more generally for the state and the region as a whole from net migration. In the course of this study we rely on the traditional definition of net migration as the difference between out-migration and in-migration. Nevada, as part of the sunbelt and has seen a dramatic population shift in the post-war era, and as the Census shows, in the post-World War II era Nevada's growth has been among the highest in the country. Lincoln County, however, has only marginally benefitted from this increase in total state population. As Table I-1 shows, population actually declined from the pre-war census (1940) to the post-war census of 1950, followed by further decline in 1960. Growth in Lincoln County since 1960 is evident and it adheres to the pattern seen throughout the state. This development is a result of several regional patterns; the sunbelt phenomenon and expansion of Nevada's economic base are well-documented in a number of places (Reinhold, 1991;

Ebel, 1990).

Nevada's growth in the last two decades supports the conclusions of the existing literature on migration. In this regard, Simon Kuznets, stresses that regional migration is an indicator of the way in which people respond to economic opportunity. He notes, that

Table I-1

Population Estimates: Nevada and Lincoln County

YEAR	NEVADA	% Change	LINCOLN COUNTY	%Change
1930	91,058		3,601	
1940	110,247		4,130	
1950	160,083		3,679	
1960	285,278		2,431	
1970	488,738		2,557	
1980	800,493		3,732	
1990	1,201,833		3,775	

*Source U.S. Census

"migration induced by growth that promises greater opportunities has been sufficiently massive ... to warrant the view that the relation between population redistribution and economic development is an important and indispensable link in the mechanism of modern economic growth" (1964: xxiii). Kuznet's

theory appears substantial in the case of Nevada, a state that maintained a relatively healthy economy over the last decade and a half as other parts of the country wallowed in recession. Economic growth had a direct impact in fueling the state's dramatic population explosion. The extent to which other factors may affect migration is also of interest and underscores, at least at the theoretical level much of this study.

THEORETICAL APPROACHES

Many socio-demographic studies focus on the attributes of the individual, (Ritchey 1976: 378). Individual place in society and standard socioeconomic measures have all come to play an important role in developing both a composite and base-line pictures of migration (See, Kirschenbaum, 1971; Lichter et al., 1979). In the extant literature the primary focus on the economic rationale behind migration looks at labor mobility (Zuiches, 1981) and place-to-place stream analysis or flow patterns. Psychological attributes of individuals and their "willingness to move" have also proved productive in analysis of migration but are less prevalent (Swanson et al., 1979). Psychological attributes may, however, challenge the tenets that labor/economic incentives move towards equilibrium wherein geographical

distributions of labor push or pull individuals. Given some psychological preferences (ie., risk adverse or risk taking, family ties) disequilibrium may come about resulting in irregular migration or non-equilibrium.

J.R. Hicks (1932: 76) stated that "differences in net economic advantages, chiefly differences in wages, are the main causes of migration." A direct leaning toward the economic or rational man approach. The economic differential in wages has been of considerable interest in studies of developing areas, a category within which Nevada can be placed (Lewis, 1954; Fei and Ranis, 1961; Jorgenson, 1961). Economic differential is based on the idea that the main factor in a migration decision is the real income differential. However, since Hicks wrote during the era of the Great Depression, which clearly provides a historical perspective to his work, other factors have been identified as important in the individual calculus determining migration. These studies have been placed into three broad categories (Gruidl, 1989) and consist of:

- 1) micro studies, focusing on the family and individual;
- 2) cross-section aggregate studies focusing on equilibrium relationships between migrants and the factors that determine their migration; and,
- 3) time-series studies that explore the temporal issues

of migration and other regional labor market variables.

Despite the great value of the extant literature in the last two categories, it is the first category that initially draws our attention in this instance. The direction and purpose of this particular undertaking is to assess how migration among the individuals and communities in the area adjacent to and around Yucca Mountain will be impacted; specifically Lincoln County, Nevada. Thus, the discussion begins by focusing on the four general categories that lend to organizing study in the micro area. These four categories are:

- 1) Human Capital
- 2) Uncertainty
- 3) Consumption
- 4) Strategic Behavior.

In doing so we act by being aware of the role of methodological individualism and consumer sovereignty, which serve as roots for collective behavior.

Methodological Individualism and Consumer Sovereignty

Consumer sovereignty may be thought of in either a descriptive or normative sense (Rothenberg, 1962; Lovrich and Nieman, 1984). In the descriptive sense, migration decisions can be evaluated in

terms of the degree to which it satisfies the desires of individual consumers. As an abstract principle, consumer sovereignty is most appealing in democratic societies. To defend the principle we ask, who other than individuals can best determine what is good for themselves? Overall, it can be argued that the consumer in democratic societies, especially relative free-market economies, has a considerable degree of discretion as to his choice of goods and services in the marketplace and where they might go to obtain those services most attractive or needed. Overall, the general principle seems quite institutionalized. Yet, there are several well-established infringements on the principle of consumer sovereignty that are widely practiced, such as compulsory education, social security, health and safety regulations, and taxes on consumption goods. With respect to some goods society has apparently decided that the consumer is not prepared to make all decisions.

In his analysis of consumer sovereignty, Rothenberg (1962) asks whose tastes are relevant in determining consumer preferences? If consumers are uninformed about certain kinds of commodities or opportunities, would their tastes change with better information? On the other hand, of what importance are consumer preferences for a given product or set of services when producers spend large sums

of money in advertising to bring about change in consumer decisions? These range from convincing individuals that they must have the next state-of-the-art widget, to education that stresses a concept such as Yucca Mountain construction does not increase the risk that Nevadans will glow in the dark for twenty thousand years. Promotional activities, whether undertaken in the private or public sector provide information to consumers, but in varying degrees the consumer is manipulated to accept the decisions of producers or active participants in the decision and/or policy process.

Because of this confusion between natural wants and manipulated desires, and because of the frequent inadequacy of decision-relevant knowledge, some people are incapable of expressing their true preferences--or by some accounts are pressured into accepting the tastes of the better informed consumer (Scitovsky, 1962). As a consequence, Rothberg notes that consumer sovereignty develops into a variable patchwork of value judgements and results in different things for different people.

Thus we must be cognizant that individual behavior is not the sole basis upon which migration decisions are made. The importance of the individual consumer cannot, however, be overlooked; the individual actor is the basic unit of choice upon which most decisions come to rest (Feldman, 1980: 9-21; Abrams, 1980: 7-9).

The notion of the individual (methodological individualism) is further reflected in the individual's right to cast a vote for one alternative over another. In the case of migration, this allows the individual to "vote with their feet" and move to a new location that provides a more attractive set of benefits, goods or services. Fundamentally, when individuals work together, no individual is bound by the agreement of the collective body unless they consent to being bound. Additionally, under consumer sovereignty all actors are relatively equal in their fundamental opportunities, regardless of influences and outside forces.

Individual actions have thus been interpreted as reflecting the one person/one vote formula. The one person/one vote formula is employed widely, even though it may seriously distort the situation in the real world (Downs, 1957). The process appears to be majority-based, but decisions are not always so (Downs, 1957; Straffin, 1977; Abrams, 1980: 145-146; Alt and Chrystal, 1983: 149-172). Individual actions and equal opportunity tend to have consequences for collective action. First, despite the one person/one vote concept, the fact is that some actors consider their opinions to count more and base their bargaining positions on such beliefs (Katz and Lazarfield, 1964; Verba, 1970). Second, despite one person/one vote, majorities recognize that they are not

the sole force in making decisions and thus must take into account the decisions of other, often dissenting actors in developing their strategies (Downs, 1957; O'Mare, Bacow and Sanderson, 1983: 67-98; Oberstar, 1983). Third, in expressing individual sovereignty actors behave "rationally" to protect their interests (Zartman, 1976; Schelling, 1978; Barry and Hardin, 1982).

Currently, social scientists have examined these factors and have concluded that despite the one person/one vote notion embedded in western democracy, some actors carry disproportionate influence. Consequently, they are serious factors in the decision making process, either for better or worse depending on one's position in the process. However unreasonable this may seem to our notions of equality, this characteristic affects behavior of actors and the decisions they make in important ways. As a result, individuals do not always act solely on their own and on the basis of their self-determined best interest; self-interest becomes a composite of attributes and interactions. The more experienced decision makers--especially those representing some set of aggregate interests--know this and set in place activities that promote their interests (Sabatier and Mazmanian, 1979; Kirst and Jung, 1982; Browne and Meir, 1983).

The decisions surrounding the proposed development of a high-

level nuclear waste facility at Yucca Mountain centers on the actions of a number of prominent participants-- eg., the Department of Energy, the State of Nevada, special interest group representatives, labor unions, and the scientific community, among others. While each is aware that individuals have the right to make decisions, as collectives in the policy process attendant to the Yucca Mountain Project, they are also aware that they can take actions that may influence support and perceptions of opportunities available in the adjacent area, at the county level statewide. The extent to which they take a role in affecting decisions to migrate may be an important factor in determining how well these forces are doing in the policy process.

Human Capital

In this area of study, migration is viewed as an individual decision parallel to education. It involves costs (ie., moving, emotional strain), but is anticipated, if undertaken, to provide a stream of benefits over some self-determined period of time (Sjaasted, 1962; Bowles, 1970; Laber and Chase, 1971; Yezer and Thurston, 1976; Allen, 1979). In the case of Yucca Mountain, it may be that the costs of moving to Lincoln County for individuals directly involved in construction of the site are low when

considered in terms of past cyclical opportunities in sectors that will be utilized at the site, namely heavy construction and mining which have a history of ups-and-downs in the regional economy (Hulse, 1991). The opportunity afforded by the potential of ten years or more of steady work is by any account attractive, especially in a rural region that provides many quality-of-life attributes unavailable in urban areas. From the out-migration perspective the inverse may be true, inasmuch as growth via migration may reduce the net benefits perceived by earlier settlers or migrants in the region and bring with it many of the problems associated with growth (crime, congestion, inflation).

In addition, the region has ingrained in its very fabric psychological costs related to friends and families which set the early tone for many communities (See McCracken, 1990). The bonds of small communities have been discovered to be a new drawing card for many in-migration individuals, and may be a key benefit for return migration individuals who perceive, not only economic stability, but psychic rewards in returning to their roots. This may be especially evident in Lincoln County where religious ties are very strong. The Mormon Church prides itself on its service to its membership. In Lincoln County where church membership is very high among the permanent population, we may be well-advised to

expect a perceived benefit, unmeasurable but of great importance to members of the Mormon faith.

Incomplete information also plays a role in individual micro-level decisions (DeVanzo, 1983). For in-migration groups, knowledge about the scale and length of the project are generally unknown. Consequently they may be the last to come for the expressed purpose of the project development, and in areas of union labor the first to subsequently be dismissed and out-migrate under seniority systems favoring journeymen. For individuals already in Lincoln County, knowledge about the extent of the project is expected to be higher and thus play a greater role in their decision making calculus, and risk calculus as well, a point to which we shall return.

The human capital framework covers a number of concerns. First, the role of the family and life-cycle concerns (Mincer, 1978). Family in the migration literature plays a role in positive ways, drawing the individual back and is viewed as a positive gain. Ties deter migration or enhance return migration, but may become problematic in rural areas where out-migration individuals have married outsiders and now are dual-income and dual-career families. Subsequently, they are likely to see less opportunity for both spouses, an important baby boom consideration that must be taken

into account. Thus, we are led to ask if the spouse's occupation is a factor which overrides familial ties? (See also, Sandell, 1977.)

The role of distance, age and education also has a role in the migration decision. Distance may decrease the propensity to return or in-migrate. For example, only under extreme hardship would we expect a worker from southern Florida to in-migrate at labor or journeyman's wages to the Yucca Mountain Project, yet the same may not be true of the white-collar professional who receives moving support not afforded to many blue collar, skilled and semi-skilled labor. Part of this is viewed as a psychic cost and part because of less information about a locale (information declines with distance) (Schwartz, 1973). Schwartz also discloses that the higher educated move greater distances than these lesser educated and are more likely to move farther from their families. Put another way, they are viewed as being more ambitious and younger than non-migrants (Danesh, 1985).

De Vanzo (1983) suggests that individuals react based on previous move patterns as well. Those who have moved and benefitted are likely to do so again. More highly educated persons are viewed as less likely to return than less educated. Others suggest that migrants both in and out, tend to be better educated and younger, seeing more opportunity outside their present situation (Nakosteen

and Zimmes, 1980; Robinson and Tomes, 1982; Tunali, 1985). In this context the wage earning differential outside the place of origin is deemed the primary consideration. Less well-educated individuals are viewed as not benefitting from the disparate wage structure and can do as well in the place of origin and therefore may be seen as the individuals most likely to return in the short-run.

Knowledge and Uncertainty

Migration is inherently full of risks and uncertainty. To what extent this uncertainty can be overshadowed by knowledge of a more secure future may be very important especially among the younger cohort who tend to seek opportunities outside their rural origins (Langley, 1980). Migration decisions are not only made at one point in time, but are updated as a result of more information and changes in factors that lend themselves to another locale becoming a more preferable place to live. More information reduces the propensity to search for a place to live and be "satisfied" with the place of present location or accept that area about which more is known. More information reduces speculation and uncertainty among migrating individuals (David, 1974; Maier, 1985; Rogerson, 1982). Employed individuals and more economic and

socially stable people can be viewed as less speculative, while those in search of opportunity or who may appear unstable may be more speculative and more likely to search.

The important factor in this regard, is that those of considerable technical skill that may be required in an operation and monitoring phase of a high-level waste repository are less likely to migrate or will not migrate unless contractual arrangements are made or work demands (transfers) them to the locale. (See, for example, Gordon and Vickerman, 1982). For this potential pool, uncertainty is not a factor, unless one is in the pool of potential transferees among the federal agencies involved or one of the myriad of contractors used. Uncertainty also bears heavily on risk perceptions, a point which is discussed in more detail later.

Consumption

Under the consumption approach, migration may be viewed as a function of the benefits derived by consumption of goods and services. In this area of study Graves (1979) provide the theoretical basis. Their contention is that migration is less motivated or not motivated by job choices, but by consumption opportunities available that in-turn create demand leading to in-

migration. Similar to intrinsic or psychic goods they discuss non-tradeables such as weather, race relationships, crime rates, public infrastructure and the like. These are goods attached to a particular locale, and as such can only be obtained in that place in a specific quantity.

It is changing demand that causes migration under this model. Changing demands could be brought about by higher rates of crime in one's place of origin, or lower rates when return migration occurs. Likewise, changes in health may result in needs for different weather (ie., like the arid climate of the southwest). Graves (1979) demonstrates that climatological variables are important in migration decisions. Migration to the sunbelt clearly provides evidence of this. Yet, a new dimension that underscores much of this growth and given little attention in the literature is technology, which may make previously undesirable locales feasible. In the southwest, for example, the growth and in-migration since the 1950s is a function of the modern efficient air conditioner, without it many burgeoning areas we now take for granted would be little more than bus stops. Technology which provided the underlying infrastructure, such as roads, a function of the automobile, or large-scale hydroelectric projects which provide the electricity that runs the amenities that make an inhospitable

climate viable also have their own separate migratory impacts. For example, how many individuals have their roots in the days of the construction of Hoover Dam, or the national highway system. Amenity variables also may be high priority in the decisions taken by retirees and potential retiree "snowbird" types. This issue may be important in the study of the Yucca Mountain area and requires separating out this aspect from economic choices in the course of study.

Labor Factors

Division of labor may become an important facet of migration patterns in the area under study and are brought about by the needs of the Yucca Mountain project at different points in time. Early site characterization studies provide ample opportunities for trained geologists, hydrologists and a host of other professionals. As the transfer is made to actually building the site, more demands will be made on other labor pools such as mine workers, heavy equipment operators, followed in time by construction workers, engineers, technicians and a final operations team. Two forms of migration are set up by the division of labor and are direct functions of the demands of the Yucca Mountain project.

The first involves those outside the existing pool of

residents while the second draws on the existing pool. Who for example will migrate to the area. Evidence suggests that nuclear physicists and engineers have moved into Nye County or northern Clark County in order to work at the Nevada Test Site. How many of these individuals will transfer inter-community to the Yucca Mountain project, especially in light of the reduction of effort at the Nevada Test Site? This functional specialization is not unique to southern Nevada and exhibits itself in other areas where considerable nuclear research has occurred (Richland, WA., Los Alamos, NM, Oak Ridge, TN). Another dimension involves the demands that are placed in the site characterization phase when many geologists, for example, have been drawn to the project. Will the project sustain them in the long-run? If not, who will replace them or will the reductions caused by completing the Site Characterization process lead to a push form of migration, whereas in the earlier phases a pull migration pattern is expected.

Another question to be raised is the intra-community labor needs, those required to sustain the activity occurring at any one point in time (Raines, 1989). To what extent will the rise and fall in the Yucca Mountain task force require adjustments to the labor pool for day-to-day goods and services (ie., gas station, groceries, schools, prostitution). How much of this labor pool

which will be drawn from outside the region-- pulled in because of a perceived benefit, primarily economic, from the Yucca Mountain Project? It may well be a function of how well the current population can meet the needs of the project, prepare for them and provide the necessary training in labor areas that may be new to the region. This is an important factor in return migration and perhaps in diminishing out-migration among the younger cohort, a group who historically leave their area in search of better opportunities elsewhere. Anticipation of labor needs and the divisions which will occur may provide stable patterns of migration and smooth out some of the boom and bust cycles which have characterized the region as noted in the historical discussion following this section.

The increase in non-metropolitan growth, with its psychic rewards and nontradeables, in conjunction with a project that has a lifetime of work potential suggests a migration pattern that could be unique. Discerning these subtleties is another question, however, and requires careful monitoring over a significant period of time throughout the project; especially the degree to which government entities are planning for the next shift in population either positively or negatively, and the way in which they anticipate smoothing out the boom and bust cycle in order to come

close to a labor equilibrium.

Strategic Behavior

Despite the plethora of economic literature to the contrary, it would seem that under the many conditions of collective action strategic behavior is developed that can incorporate the entire family unit. For the family some Pareto-superior strategy may lead to having a household migrate somewhere else or to take risk in order to insure a higher stream of benefits in the future. Or as in the case of the two-earner family, at least one and conceivably both earners would improve their situations (Lucas and Stark, 1985).² This type of thinking requires expanding the costs to the collective (family) with the anticipation that benefits will be equally shared in time. Another arrangement may also call for one member to take on a disproportionate burden and move to a new locale and then send a remittance to the family members who remain home, until either enough money is there to effect migration of the entire family or the project task of the single migrant is completed; a scenario not uncommon in large-scale construction

² A Pareto-superior condition is defined as a condition where no one involved is viewed as worse-off and at least one member of the decision unit is better off.

projects within which the building of the de facto mine at Yucca Mountain falls. The migrant may take this burden for self-seeking interest or altruism, or in the case of return migrants a chance to move home in dignity.

Strategic behavior may also incorporate weighing the risks of living in one region over another, an issue in the context of Yucca Mountain which cannot be discounted. To what degree individuals are willing to accept real and perceived risks associated with the transportation and storage of high level nuclear waste can play a very important role in migration decisions. In this regard, the decision to stay may be part of having lived in proximity to the Nevada Test Site for years which makes Yucca Mountain seemingly benign by comparison. In contrast, the decision to exit may be based on fears about exposure to assorted forms of risk that may be real or not, but play a role in the perceptions of the individual in developing their belief systems (Converse, 1964; Soden, 1990). Recent data collected from residents of this area suggest that the risk factors associated with Yucca Mountain are not single dimension as some analysts have suggested (Slovic et al., 1991), but must be considered as multi-dimensional and variable by region of residence (Steel, Soden and Warner, 1990).

As Todaro (1980: 365) notes, risks and uncertainties are

essential in studying migration although it should be noted that his focus is rural to urban, not urban to rural or rural to rural. Section IX provides further exploration of this dimension.

CORRELATES OF SUPPORT FOR MIGRATION

Political Culture

Political Culture is one of the key ways for understanding the nature of the social and political milieu in Nevada, especially when one begins to consider the causes for migration decisions. Political culture is a fairly new term for an old idea, one which gained considerable acceptance in the social sciences in the s, and more recently has undergone a renaissance among those who employ the social culture approach as a means for describing segments of society which share values and beliefs and as a foundation for how societal groups and collectivities view individual policies, politics in general, and the manner in which they believe government should operate (Thompson et al., 1990). The most influential works regarding political culture (Elazar, 1984; Almond and Verba, 1963) suggest that such orientations within given domains (ie., nations, states) are in reality responsible for the "Character" or "tradition" that exists.

As an analytical framework, political and social culture

provides a set of descriptors which, in essence, challenge the notion that the political and social scene is essentially homogeneous (Dran et al., 1989). As such, political culture provides a way to deal with differences within social and political systems. The most recognizable formulation of culture are the investigations of Daniel Elazar (1984; 1986) which consider culture at the mass level. Elazar contends that there is a general American political culture which holds consistent within given political boundaries. In his studies at the state level, he identifies these subcultures as individualistic, traditionalistic, and moralistic.

At the national level, Elazar suggests that conflict, social and political, is created as a function of these three subcultures which view government's role in different ways. More recent studies (Thompson et al., 1990) propose a broader framework that incorporates Elazar's work, but also moves considerably beyond it. Thompson and his associates propose five culture sub-types, namely, egalitarian, hierachial, individualistic, fatalistic, and autonomous. While each of these versions bear fruit, especially in terms of sociological phenomenon, during the first phase of this study we are not convinced that they add much more than Elazar in categorizing demands on government services, particularly those

demands or perceived needs that may be important in the calculus to migrate.

Elazar's typology is familiar to almost every student of political phenomena. The individualistic political culture prefers a market place and views government as a commercial enterprise. The political system protects the market place within which personal, family and group goals can be achieved. Overall, involvement in the policy process and decisions based on government activities are based on self-interest. Thus anything beyond protection of the self and immediate family is unwarranted. Decisions in the political arena are viewed as best left to politicians and experts.

The moralistic subculture is best viewed as emphasizing the commonwealth and in the more current vernacular, the "public interest." As members of the community we seek a good and just society and participate in the policy process, supporting non-partisan options and relying on government to serve as the professional manager that will fulfill societal needs.

Elazar's traditionalistic culture is best viewed as a hybrid of the individualistic and moralistic subcultures. There exists an obligation to self-interest, but history and tradition dictate how elites should maintain the policy direction being taken. The

average citizen defers to elites and government officials who understand their best interests.

With this as a brief background, it is not surprising that Elazar identifies Nevada as an individualistic culture. He does recognize some mixing of cultures, especially in core urban areas in the sunbelt. Previous work suggests that the existence of subcultures may indicate preferences among the general public for one area or another. Furthermore, work in Nevada suggests that some areas of the state clearly view issues differently than others (Gerlak and Soden, 1993; Soden and Simich, 1992). In this instance we put forth culture types as a potential explanator of migration. Those who seek a less regimented lifestyle and favor the individualistic typology may be expected to be very recognizable in rural in-migration patterns. The rise and growth of some rural communities may also see a blending of cultures. Moreover, in a state that has a history of federal benevolence despite adherence to an individualistic-frontier mentality, we may see considerable demand placed on government to make things right.

Defining Nevada's past as an individualistic state is not likely to receive much opposition. The state has provided opportunities to miners, farmers, ranchers and merchants, and more recently, those employed in gaming, entertainment, recreation and

development industries. These activities are seen as attracting individuals who wish to pursue their economic objectives relatively free of government interference. Stressing this individualistic tradition, Nevada,

became one of the most diverse and colorful immigrant locales in the United States. Within five years after being organized into a territory, Nevada had drawn immigrants from five continents and almost two score countries (Shepperson, 1970).

Given its frontier character and rugged geography, sparse population and relatively weak political and legal structure, newcomers to Nevada found "ample room to move with little hindrance and to exploit as well as explore" (Shepperson, 1970).

Ironically within this hand-off, live-and-let-live" society, Nevada has been a major recipient of federal benevolence. Nevada is a pork barrel state, benefitting from federal dollars used to construct Hoover Dam, important military installations (Nellis AFB, Tonopah Test Range), war-related industrial plants, road construction, and the Nevada Weapons Test Site at Mercury. More recently, the federal effort has shifted to Yucca Mountain and raises the question of whether or not it may serve as a catalyst for attracting more individuals to the area.

Evidence that Nevada continues to benefit from government and also distrust its role are numerous. The Newlands Project,

stemming from passage of the Newlands Act of 1902, led the Bureau of Reclamation to take a key role as an economic unit in the state. Water allocation issues (Gerlak and Soden, 1993), the Sagebrush Rebellion and its resurgence, environmental regulations, and a significant defense establishment, all suggest that the role the federal government bears heavily on Nevada and documents the federal largess as a critical and significant factor in the migration patterns that have affected the state in the twentieth century.

Yet, while Nevada has been a major recipient of federal activities, unique characteristics appear to have risen that suggest it displays attributes that may challenge the federal domination, especially in the last fifteen years during which time the state has experienced spectacular growth and in-migration. Historically, Moehring (1989), among others note that the state and its major metropolitan areas, have suffered from undeveloped social services, mass rapid transit, and a slow demands for racial equality, and a preference for a low tax base versus public services. While these characteristics still persist, movement away from skimpy taxation is evident in a new business tax and higher sales and gasoline taxes, coupled with a gaming industry that supplies forty percent of the state's general revenue requirements.

These new taxes and demands may suggest a shift away from the individualistic characteristics of the past, towards a more contemporary set of demands on government. From another perspective, they may provide the impetus for those who preferred past standards to exodus into the rural areas where the individualistic tradition remains relatively intact, especially if basic services and employment needs could be serviced by the federal sector, vis-a-vis Yucca Mountain.

Risk Factors in Migration Decisions

In the last twenty years, citizens have consistently demonstrated a concern about environmental hazards and more generally have come to challenge historical use patterns with regards to natural resources (Milbrath, 1984). In addition, the perceptions of risk pertaining to high-level nuclear waste disposal has been the focus of a plethora of studies (Slovic et al., 1991; Kunruther et al., 1988; Soden et al., 1992).

Social scientists have identified a number of factors which may account for how public perceptions may take a role in decisions, and we believe may affect migration decisions in the adjacent counties surrounding Yucca Mountain. In this regard, level of education and relevant policy-relevant knowledge may act

as a key predictor of migration decisions when high-levels of risk perception exist (Kuklisnski et al., 1982). Others propose that education is relatively unimportant (Pilisuk et al., 1987; Saarinen, 1982). Instead, these individuals propose that political and social value orientations bear heavily on the estimations of risk. This may also be viewed as being underscored by larger concerns regarding the nature of government and whether the state or the individual should bear responsibility for actions, such as in-migration to high risk areas.

Growing support for social programs and government services likewise may be linked to the assessment of risk. For some time, it has been suggested that Western democratic societies have undergone a transformation whereby "higher order needs" (Maslow, 1970) have supplanted basic subsistence needs, and thus become, in many instances, the motivations in support of social policies over economic interests (Inglehart, 1977; 1990). Moreover, perceptions of risk may then be linked to attitudes about the social order and social equity (Soloman and Cameron, 1985; Fiorino, 1989; 1990).

Lastly, other possible factors including age, income, length of residence, regions of residence, and general policy preferences have been pointed to as predictors of perceptions (Milbrath, 1984; Steel et al., 1990; Steel and Soden, 1991). Given the uncertainty

which coincides with the migration decision, perceptions of risk may be heightened given the surrounding policy question, in this case a high-level nuclear waste repository. Studies have also demonstrated that age, income and gender, can play key roles in assessments of uncertainties and risks (Douglas and Wildavsky, 1982; Steger et al., 1987; Sims and Bauman, 1983). In the area of migration, place and length of residence can play important roles in focusing views and community values and the decisions to move into the "backyard" (Steel and Soden, 1991; Soden et al., 1985).

Sources of Variation

An initial appraisal shows that migration has associated with it a host of potential factors which can be grouped into three categories:

- 1) socioeconomic and background characteristics;
- 2) value orientations;
- 3) status-quo locational factors.

The degree of contribution of each of these to migration decisions depends in part on the interaction of micro and macro conditions, which should be incorporated in the analysis.

Socioeconomic and Background Factors

Age, income level, gender and education may all play a role in determining how migration decisions are made; especially the decision not to migrate. These factors also may affect the perception of risk perceived in an area like Yucca Mountain and the degree to which an individual is willing to accept risk or expose their family to risk. Younger individuals, for example, have been found to be more sympathetic to environmental impacts of proposed policies than are those individuals raised in a time when environmental concerns were less salient (Steel and Soden, 1989; Steel, Soden and Warner, 1990).

Education has been considered an important predictor as well in migration decisions to use one's education and in predicting awareness about social issues and knowledge about the extent of public perception about issues (Huntington, 1974; Pierce and Lovrich, 1985; Soden, 1990). Moreover, it has been suggested that "education increases rationality in the special sense of lowering information costs and developing innate intelligence to its fullest" (Goldberg, 1969). Education also is associated with lifelong learning and, hypothetically, with a greater understanding of issues at hand (Kessel, 1980; 1983). A better educated individual may possess greater understanding of the issues at hand

and be inclined to give them greater weight in their decisions to migrate and in how they assess risks. Gender may play a role, especially in migration to rural areas that do not afford as many career and professional opportunities for women. Gender also appears to be a factor in how risk perceptions are developed. Women may be more inclined to see risk and weight it more than men (Regens, 1991).

Existing and potential income levels may also be thought to bear on support for new policies. Clearly, those with high income where they presently reside are less likely to migrate than those with lower economic status. Those with higher levels of income have succeeded in fulfilling their basic subsistence and security needs and are more capable of focusing their attention on non-monetary motives (Maslow, 1970).

Value Orientations

Overall, value orientations refer to the degree to which basic belief systems (Converse, 1964; Barton and Parsons, 1977; Pierce and Lovrich, 1980) characterize formation of decisions about a given issue. In a period of relative economic affluence and security, most Americans have increased their support for the fulfillment of "higher order needs"-- quality of life, the

environment, democracy in the workplace, support for the less fortunate and the displaced (Inglehart, 1971; 1977; 1990). For many, however, social needs and concerns overshadow their economic requirements which, for them, may be stronger in ordering their decision criteria and orienting their preferences.

More specifically, positions which individuals take about the role of government and their general orientation towards life may sustain their migration decisions and assessment of the risk involved. For example, it may be posited that in the Yucca Mountain case, strong beliefs founded in orientations in the Mormon Church can direct migration or willingness to accept certain aspects of the program because of strong church ties, particularly in Lincoln County where church ties weigh more heavily than other ties outside the area. Value orientations also bear heavily on the perspective which individuals lend to economic policies of the state. Those strongly opposed to government's role in the economy, such as those with a laissez-faire attitude may have difficulty in orienting themselves to an economic situation highly dependent on the federal establishment. Such beliefs suggest a correlation to how political culture perceptions are determined, as previously discussed.

Locational Factors

An understanding of the potential to assess migration decisions may also be linked to the existing residence or residence of origin of an individual. Considerable research suggests that residence is important in determining policy positions (Soden et al., 1985; Steel and Soden, 1991). How long an individual or their family has been associated with a community may support heavily their decision to in or out-migrate. Proximity to a proposed, potentially hazardous situation can also be expected to affect the individual calculus. Rural residents record patterns of perceptions about their communities quite differently than do those in urban areas (Soden et al., 1992; Gerlak and Soden, 1993). The bonds they have to their community can be quite strong and serve as indicators of how they perceive programs and their program impacts. In addition, length of residence can also serve as an indicator of community ties and how decisions to migrate are made.

More recent arrivals may be likely to move on than those with tenure or a stake (investment) in the area. In Nevada, where the testing of nuclear weapons has a long history, acceptance of risk may be incorporated into belief systems and the status-quo, making a program like a high-level nuclear waste facility look fairly benign in contrast.

Locational factors are also affected by attitudes towards growth and its control, especially in a "boom" state like Nevada. Growth requires development of new programs and infrastructure which almost immediately affect old standards, community traditions, and the quality of life. How support for increased population growth, vis-a-vis in-migration may be related to migration decisions among the status-quo, and our understanding of how the nuclear waste repository and its impact will be played out in this regard is of considerable importance.

Macro Dimensions

Beyond consumer sovereignty previously discussed and collective action, both aspects of the micro dimension, macro discussions, while not the focus of this study should be mentioned. Structuralist functionalist approaches provide the first alternative to the micro approach. They suggest that social relationships which extend beyond one individual play an important role that creates enduring groups and collectivities (ie., rural ties, ethnic groups, kinship, sex and age cohorts). These produce more consensus and less conflict that serve to self-perpetuate a society within a regional setting. Migration serves as an indicator of the extent to which these forces are positive or

negative (Gluckman, 1961; Skinner, 1965; Parkin, 1975: Berg, 1965; Mitchell, 1969). While heavily leaning towards the individual, the primary focus is towards the cultural and aggregate factors that create the differences in migratory decisions. Criticism of this approach rests on viewing cultural factors as being surface phenomenon that mask the more fundamental and political factors that perpetuate and create divisions in society (Amin, 1974; Binsbergen and Meilink, 1978).

Historical structuralism looks at the social structural level and views migration as the function of broader social trends and forces such as shifts in the modes of production (agrarian to industrial) or the consequences of major events on migration (war, famine, depression), (van Binsbergen, 1978; 1985). Migration in these genre is viewed as part of a broader social/historical transformation. As such it is useful for documenting major trends which may underscore individual decisions to migrate (Wood, 1982: 302).

Moving up from the individual micro level, broad patterns may attest to the "rural push" and "urban pull" theories linked closely to the possibilities of employment. Urban pull draws rural people to urban areas and is brought about by the benefits of employment, access to education and social mobility, and less rigid social

norms and mores (Sovani, 1964: 118-119; Nelson, 1970: 11; Mangin, 1967: 66). Pull factors rest largely in economic opportunities and demands for labor in rural areas. In contrast, "rural push" is brought about by high levels of unemployment, lower standards of living and a decline in traditional industries such as agriculture, mining and ranching. Both the push and the pull theories are very economic in their orientation and do not pay adequate attention to social and cultural forces. Moreover, they do not account for the effects of the other, or that for some segments of the population urban flight may be occurring or that rural pull affords factors both psychological and economic which when summed exceed the benefits provided in urban areas. At the macro level decisions also must be placed into the context of the historical structural institutional perspective that form an umbrella over the social patterns that exist within a region (Wood, 1982), as discussed in the area of political culture.

Summary

The micro-oriented literature seems well-suited to the initial task of understanding migration patterns in Lincoln County, particularly as they are specifically linked to decisions pertaining to in, out, and return migration as it relates to Yucca

Mountain's impact within the region. Intrinsic/psychic values, family ties, economic, information (De Vanzo, 1982; Schwartz, 1973), uncertainty (Langley, 1974) and risk considerations (Stark and Bloom, 1985; Lucas and Stark, 1985) clearly stand out in the literature.

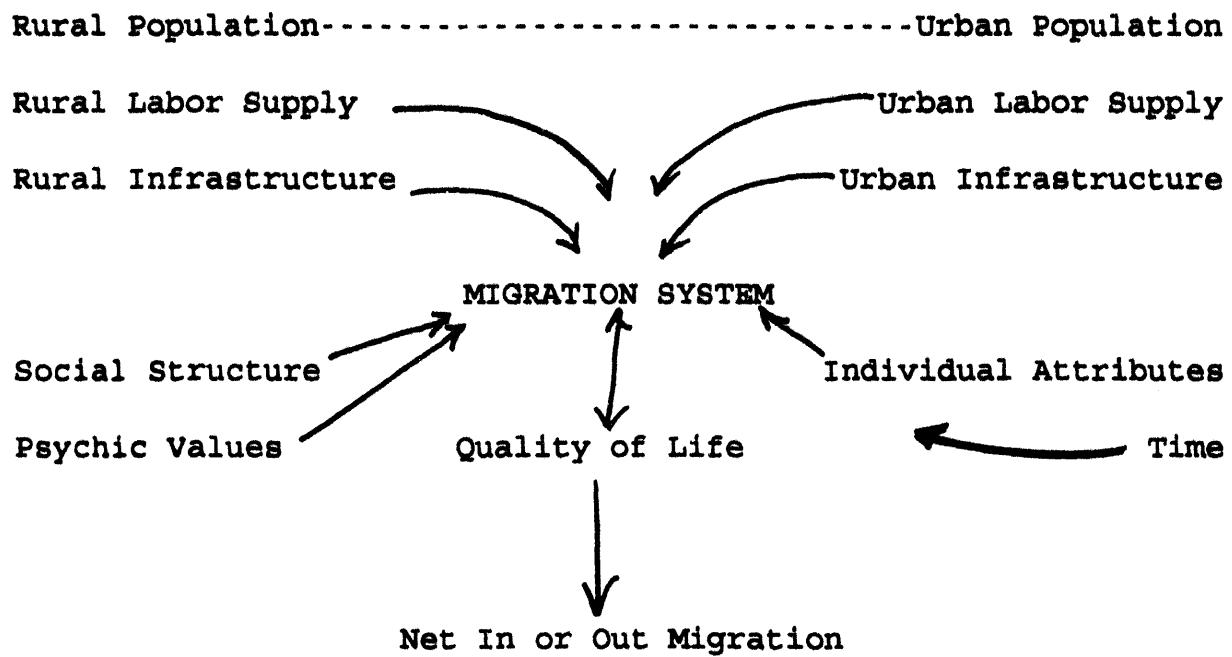
These studies point out that employment and economic decisions may not be the only issues that come to bear on decisions to migrate. In fact a host of other factors come into play, many which are difficult to measure. In this case we are also interested in "place-oriented policy" (see, Hoover, 1975) which attempts to improve or impact the economic activity within a given region, in our case more specifically we focus on Lincoln County which lies within the radius of 50 miles around Yucca Mountain. Such place-oriented policies are evident across two dimensions. First, the influence on business decisions, an issue side-stepped in the first year of this study in order to focus on the second issue, namely the micro-individual levels which focuses on migration incentives both inward and outward, and opportunities available to various segments of the population.

Reverse Migration

Since Todaro's classic work on internal migration in 1969, a

large degree of scholarly effort has focused on rural to urban migration (Todaro, 1969). Identification of income gaps has drawn the bulk of the attention. Scant attention has, however, been paid to reverse migration, focusing upon those who have returned to their rural origins or urbanites who move to rural areas. In large part this is no doubt a function of the small number of individuals who migrate beyond the suburban area to true rural locations. One key component to this is that urban migration may not be permanent in its intention, but may become so because opportunity does not present itself in the rural place of origin. Ideally, the same opportunities provided in an urban area could retain, reverse or draw people, being rational decision identified within the literature on urban-pull, rural-push.

MIGRATION MODEL



SECTION III: HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

An examination of the history of Lincoln County, Nevada, as part of research focusing on migratory effects related to the construction of a high-level nuclear waste repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada, has provided an applied setting for historical work in the analysis of a contemporary public policy problem. The striking similarities and stark contrasts which exist and are blended into the county's history establish a foundation from which many attitudes, preferences and differences emerge.

The Remaining Frontier: Rural Nevada

Lincoln County was settled by Anglo-Americans migrating in search of economic opportunities, religious freedom or both. Much of Nevada, and specifically the southern region, was isolated due to limited access that the state's earliest pioneers had to overcome. Even today, Lincoln County remains classified as a frontier region by the federal government because of its low population density of less than two people per square mile. Southern Nevada's earliest settlers were of the same mindset as many of those who travelled to the "wild west," as the frontier became known, in search of their personal fortunes. The California

gold rush of 1849, in particular, inspired many who had little or no knowledge of the frontier, to set off in search of fame and fortune. Many of these inspired and often ill-advised individuals spread into, explored and claimed as their own, parts of the far-west and inter-mountain west. Mining and the desire for instant wealth was the largest single cause for massive in-migration into states such as Nevada, evidenced by the U.S. government's population statistics for the period, 1860 to 1880 and from 1900 to 1910--the "boom" years of mining in Nevada (Dilts, 1984).

Mining was of critical importance in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century to most Nevadans. (Hulse, 1991: 57; Paul, 1963: 41). Virginia City's Comstock rush stands out as the most prominent example, but it was not the only part of the state that experienced a significant influx of people during the "bonanza period" of 1859 to 1878 (Thompson and West, 1881: 57-61; Lord, 1959: 33-55). When news of a rich strike in the uninhabited and unknown southern Nevada, appeared in newspapers, miners working in other parts of the west rushed in to stake their claims.

The series of events which have been called mining rushes were particularly evident in Lincoln County during the late nineteenth century. Although it may be argued that the motivations of the numerous groups migrating to these remote districts were similar,

one group's impetus does appear unique from the mining experience, that of the members of The Church of Latter Day Saints, more commonly referred to as Mormons. Even though many historians of the Mormon Church have emphasized the noble motives of their "saints" who established farms in Lincoln County, it is evident that to some extent that they too were drawn to exploit the region's mineral wealth (Gillies, 1959; Lee and Wadsworth, 1966: 1-5; Hulse, 1971; Long, 1975).

Nevada has suffered from cyclical patterns of economic growth followed by decline and eventual complete demise. A boom-to-bust sequence has plagued Nevada throughout its history as a territory and as a state. (Elliot, 1987: 170-171). This scenario is particularly evident in Lincoln County, and while people have diversified their economic base to a slight degree, they have adopted a relatively open attitude toward any source of economic prosperity or improvement, even if that requires embracing the often disapproved of federal government (Hulse, 1991: 338-343; Soden et al., 1992).

Initially, like most rural counties in the region, Lincoln County sustained a resident Indian population for several thousand years before any white visitors entered the Great Basin. The people we know the most about are the Indian residents of the post

Columbian era. Of those who historically have been a part of Lincoln County the Paiutes, consisting of several distinct bands were the most populous residents (Hulse, 1991: 27). Paiutes interacted with several other sets of native Americans as both friends and enemies. Incursions by raiding parties of Utes, for example, who lived in Southern Utah had to be defended against. Another more passive interaction occurred with Western Shoshones who passed through as traders.

Spain was the first European power to explore the Great Basin. In 1776 two Spanish Franciscan Priests, Francisco Escalante and Francisco Dominguez, travelled from Santa Fe, then part of Mexico, through Southern Utah into the Meadow Valley Wash near present-day Panaca, NV. The Spanish monks searched for gold to satisfy the needs of the monarchy and sought more souls among the native population who could be shepherded into "their" God's faith. The emissaries of the Catholic Church explored a vast region, parts of which were later integrated into the Old Spanish Trail. Although of some interest to wandering mountain men in the 1820s and 1830s, few Americans knew of Nevada until 1849. The general public seemed to have little interest in such a remote and unknown land, however, this was not the case with the federal government.

Just prior to the Mexican-American War of 1846-48, the United

States government sent exploration expeditions to the Great Basin under the command of John C. Fremont. Fremont was ordered to explore the western parts of the country. He led two expeditions, one in 1843 and another in 1845, which brought the explorer into southern Nevada. (Elliot, 1987: 42-44; Hulse, 1991: 41-47; Thompson and West, 1881: 22-29). In his travels, Fremont, crossed southern Nevada by following the Old Spanish Trail. Kit Carson is credited with guiding the Fremont expeditions through lands he had visited in the 1830s when traversing the region as an independent mountain man. American politicians attained their goal of ownership in the former provinces of Mexico with the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo, between the United States and Mexico in 1848.

Members of Utah's Church of the Latter Day Saints sent missionaries to explore and settle southern Nevada as early as 1852, four years after the Treaty with Mexico (Thompson and West, 1881: 476). Mormon leader, Brigham Young, ordered a group of his people into the Las Vegas Valley in order to build a mission to teach the Indians the Mormon faith, and to secure a safe haven for their mail carriers in route to the Mormon outpost in San Bernardino, California. The Las Vegas area was considered a part of Utah by the Latter Day Saints, despite the fact that neither Utah or Nevada had a clear title to the region, and both overlooked

the reality that Southern Nevada was initially attached to the Arizona Territory until 1867. Initially Mormon brigades were sent into Nevada in search of lands where the faithful would be safe from "gentiles". One of the areas where an encampment was established was near a warm springs in Meadow Valley, the sight of present-day Panaca, NV. The men planted corn, dug irrigation ditches, and befriended the local Paiutes as missionaries of the Salt Lake City based "church" (Lee and Wadsworth, 1966: 1-2; Gillies, 1959: 41-43).

In the continuing search for pasture lands to feed their livestock, several Mormon families migrated out of Meadow Valley and settled in Eagle and Rose Valleys to the west. One of the more prominent names to emerge from this migration was that of Francis Lee, a Mormon Elder. The Lees were joined by a growing number of settlers who also were affiliated with the Mormon faith. By 1864, the number of Mormons in the area had grown significantly, and the town of Panaca was established (Lee and Wadsworth, 1966; Gillies, 1959). The initial plans for the town were drawn up by Erastus Snow, a Mormon leader from St. George, in the Utah Territory with the help of a contingent of United States soldiers assigned to the region (Long, 1975: 45).

In 1864, Nevada was admitted to the Union, an event which

began the process of transforming the territorial county government structure to that of a new state. Lincoln County was not, however, a part of the initial county structure that was established during Nevada's territorial period. In fact, Lincoln County did not exist at all during Nevada's territorial period, was not incorporated into the state structure until 1866--two years after statehood had been granted.

Mining, as previously noted, had a pronounced impact upon how Nevada was settled, particularly in the remote rural areas like Lincoln County. With the discovery of silver ore in the mountains of southeastern Nevada a growing number of prospectors settled in an area controlled by members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Because many of the new residents were not members of "the church"-- they were referred to as gentiles--and conflicts were not uncommon. In addition, the Mormon pioneers sent from Salt Lake City contended that they were residents of Utah Territory, and refused to pay property taxes imposed by the State of Nevada (Gillies, 1959: 39-46; Lee and Wadsworth, 1966: 5-9).

The Nevada Legislature in response to news of a "fabulous" ore discovery at Irish Mountain, in remote southern Nevada, sent a party of men to the region to form a local government with the goal of insuring that the state's claim to the region was perfected

(Hulse, 1991:89; Townley, 1973: 30). Governor Blasdel personally led the expedition's search for a suitable county seat and eventually gave the nod to Hiko as the political capitol of Lincoln County in March 1867 (Townley, 1973: 15-18). Nevada politicians had a vested interest in establishing the county quickly in order to insure that the state's claims to Meadow Valley and the lucrative Pahranagat mines were secured (Hulse, 1971: 16). Concurrently, the Nevada congressional delegation was pressing for an outward expansion of the state's borders at the expense of the Utah and Arizona territories.

Nevada won the battle to expand its boundaries in the U.S. House of Representatives and secured title to the lands even before the boundary had been surveyed (Lee and Wadsworth, 1966: 9; Long, 1975: 51). Meanwhile, as the debate concluded in Congress, Governor Charles Durkee, of Utah Territory visited Pahranagat and declared the mines part of the Territory of Utah (Long, 1975: 47-48). Because Utah had no political clout and at the time Nevada did, an unusual position for the state during its history. Nevada's claims superseded Utah's and Nevada won the political contest, but a majority of the people living in the Meadow Valley locale maintained their loyalties to Utah. In part this was due to their ties to the Mormon church, headquartered in Salt Lake City. This

was readily apparent when the Lincoln County tax assessor was forced out of the area at gunpoint (Lee and Wadsworth, 1966: 8-9). In the end, it was proven by an official survey that the people living in the Meadow Valley were indeed a part of Lincoln County, Nevada, which again caused another minor out-migration of the Mormon faithful to Utah. The population did not dramatically decline, however, largely due to the emergence of the Pioche mines and the beginning of another mining boom period and the attraction of another set of in-migrants (Townley, 1973: 44-45; Long, 1975: 58-61).

The resident's reaction typified one of the over-arching themes that appears throughout the history of Lincoln County--a conflict between Mormon and gentile citizens, that to a lesser degree still exists today. Panaca was, and remains to this day a community dominated by the Church of Latter Day Saints, resulting in reverence or irreverence depending on membership in "the church.". This farming and ranching area was originally settled by Mormon families under the leadership of Francis Lee in 1864. Conflicts between the gentile miners and the Mormon farmers were frequent after the Panaca ledge blossomed into the Pioche mining boom in the 1870s. Despite their mutual suspicions both parties soon came to realize that they needed each other and, subsequently

became mutually dependent through specialization and division of labor. Miners bought the farmer's agricultural products with the money earned in the mining camps and at times young Mormon men were employed as wagon masters and day laborers (Hulse, 1991: 94; Hulse, 1971: 8-9; Lee and Wadsworth, 1966: 2-3; Gillies, 1959: 43).

Most of the state suffered a serious depression from 1880 to 1900 and many mines were shut down and abandoned. The population of Nevada declined dramatically, especially in rural areas like Lincoln County. As a result of the decline in mining, cattle ranching, farming and limited small-scale mining operations dominated the economic landscape of Lincoln County well into the twentieth century and beyond the Great Depression. In 1935 it appeared that major mining operations were slated for a comeback when the U. S. government was convinced to transport cheap electrical power from Hoover Dam to the region's mines (Gemmill, 1978: 33).

The real boom period for mining did not occur, however, until World War II created a dire need for nonprecious and strategic metals important to the war effort. Lead and zinc were common in the deeper shafts around Pioche that had played out and were considered worthless in the late 1800s. Combined Metals Corporation made those shafts productive from 1939 to 1957. World War II

provided some economic stability for the local population, and the mines were crucial to that development. Combined Metals production for that eighteen year period surpassed 50 million dollars and provided much of the flow of money to the population (Hulse, 1991: 339).

Following the end of the war, the "cold war era" saw a new influx, including a number of people who began working at the Nevada Test Site and commuting from Lincoln County's four largest communities, Alamo, Caliente, Panaca, and Pioche, to the site at Mercury. The citizens of Lincoln County also saw a few additional, yet limited influxes of monies during the 1950s and s, primarily from the federal government (Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service), and from the state to promote tourism. One of the major areas of investment from the state involved developing the county's recreation facilities and expanding its parks, lakes, and reservoirs. Kershaw State Park and Echo Canyon Reservoir are two examples of the more prominent places of natural scenic beauty that drew attention from the state, but as economic forces added minimally to the economy, and subsequently did not serve to enhance in-migration. It was hoped that federal money would begin flowing into the county coffers in the late 1970s when national leaders proposed building the MX missile system. From early 1979 to mid-

1982 government surveyors were prominent in-and-around Lincoln County in search of ideal sites for constructing the mobile launch vehicles for ICBMs. As the debate raged in Congress, federal agencies planned large scale construction projects that would have had a considerable economic impact had they come to fruition (Hulse, 1991: 339). The MX project was, however, not funded leaving Lincoln Nye County commissioners searching for other means to expand their economic bases in order to maintain their populations.

Summary and Conclusion

The early patterns of migration in Lincoln County is a record of "boom and bust." As we move towards the end of the twentieth century, it is safe to say that similar cycles are on the landscape of the county. As the county struggles to retain its rural identities, the need to insure an adequate economic base exists that will lead to a slowing of net out-migration among the younger residents and skilled-labor pool. The county has also become a destination for second-home enclaves for residents of the Las Vegas area, who see a bit of the past a relatively short distance from "glitter gulch", forcing a mini-boom and a potential retiree pool in the future that will move out from the metropolitan area into

rural communities. Revenue crises in the state forcing infrastructure gaps, especially in the rural areas, and the dual recessions in the last decade-and-a-half, have made for a bust from another perspective, as the rural counties fall behind the growing urban core areas of the state in the fulfillment of services and public goods needs. Added to this, the federal government has once again made the region the focus of its efforts. In deciding to study, and most likely build, a high-level nuclear waste repository at Yucca Mountain, Lincoln County is designated as one of the most affected counties. The economic boom of a multi-billion dollar federal project could go a long-way in shoring up the fragile economy of the county. Construction of the repository and the transportation system needed to bring high-level nuclear waste to Yucca Mountain suggests a potential of two decades of high paying jobs that would bring new residents into the region and bolster the communities in both counties. On the down-side, the historical record would, in time, most likely repeat itself as the construction phase of the Yucca Mountain project winds down and the jobs that went with it are phased-out. One school of thought might propose avoiding the cycle, however, such a boom can provide the infrastructure of capital, both physical and human, that can be built upon and service new economic ventures.

Given that the need for economic stability stands out as the primary need in the county to insure demographic stability, the Yucca Mountain project may serve well the region and its people. If, however, the long-term prospects of the region can not be served by developing the labor force and infrastructure necessary to support the Yucca Mountain project, then the interpretation of history may lead us to warn caution and measure the long-term community values against short-term boom and bust schemes.

SECTION IV

KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEWS

Among the methodologies employed during the first six months of 1993 were formal and informal interviews with residents of Lincoln County, Nevada who we identify through key informant or snowball techniques as community leaders, business, and societal elites. Most of our informants lived in the three larger townships of Pioche, (population 600) Panaca, (population 450) or Caliente (population 1000); with a few of the interviews conducted in Rachel, Nevada (population estimated 150). In addition, one field researcher extensively "roved" the county in a participant-observation role without conducting formal interviews, but discussing the issues of the research with several hundred residents. This less formal evidence is used to supplement the formal interviews.

In an attempt to assess the prevailing attitude of the general population in Lincoln County, we approached community and business leaders through the Lincoln County Commission, Caliente Chamber of Commerce, and Lincoln County Rotary Club and by asking available members of each organization to participate in our survey. No effort was made to sample the entire membership of these groups due to time constraints from the perspectives of the interviewers and

interviewees. To enhance our cohort we also interviewed a number of business owners throughout the county. The majority of individuals contacted were quite willing and very enthusiastic participants who were well-informed about the situation in their respective communities.

The people we spoke to ranged in age from 32 years old to their early 60s. Most of those interviewed were either in their late 40s or early 50s, although the median age for business owners and for community leadership positions was 51 years old; an age we accept as appropriate to their positions. The most notable exception to this trend is one of the county's three commissioners, who is in her early 40s. This commissioner is unique because she is one of the few leaders from the "society-at-large", working for the school district, and is not an active member of the business community. These factors make the respondent an especially valuable resource inasmuch as she was recently elected to her post, and has a feel for what the people in the area want and expect from their government, particularly the younger and more recently migrated residents (Culverwell, 1993).

Several of the more senior business owners were past city council members and/or county commissioners. These people represented the other end of the age classification (i.e. in the

60+ range) and were the most informative in explaining what trends have occurred in the past and the manner in which the local governments have responded to certain stimuli (Olson, 1993; G. Eizman, 1993). Although well informed about a variety of topics, particularly the proposed Yucca Mountain repository, those individuals are not, however, participants in the current decision making processes of the county and its governments.

Every individual interviewed, with the exception of two, migrated into Lincoln County. And yet, even the two people born in the county fit the classification of migratory citizens since they have not remained continuous residents but they have left and returned to Lincoln County several times (Eizman, 1993). Presently they live in Caliente and own two business enterprises, but neither resides where they were born, being originally from Panaca and Carp (Eizman, 1993). Among those interviewed, most migrated "most recently" from the Las Vegas metropolitan area after previously migrating from other regions in the United States. About one third of those respondents had at one time, or another, spent a considerable part of their lives living in small rural communities. Thus they can be classified as examples of individuals whose migration decisions may fit within the context of theories which emphasize value orientations and belief systems that follow rural

orientations.

Responses given by the informants fit into both the "push" and "pull" theoretical perspectives. The quiet and more relaxed attitudes of the rural world appealed to most every single individual interviewed, with one exception, a young, recent emigrant from Las Vegas. Thus, perhaps, pulling these people into the region to fulfil "higher order needs" (Inglehart, 1971; 1977; 1990). In addition to the perception of a simpler life another element that is often mentioned, especially by those cohort members with children, involves the safety of the small close-knit community. Most of the folks living in the county believe it is a safe place to live and raise kids--free from the distractions and dangers of the city. Even though there is evidence that some of urban America's problems have spilled into the region the majority still think they are free of those concerns. This attitude is also widespread among younger residents as elaborated in the Lincoln County High School interviews (See Section VII).

Residents of the county, consistently note that they are afraid of the same intrusions that are afflicting other rural and urban sections of the nation. The primary cause of this apprehension is the increasing use of drugs among youth. Although there is little concrete evidence, a majority of those interviewed

felt that this is a problem that will have an impact upon their lives and that of their community. It was the fear of "big city problems" such as drugs, gangs, and high crime that have pushed many of the respondents out of the urban areas and pulled them into Lincoln County. In this regard, to understand why people have chosen to relocate to Lincoln County it is best to think in terms of what drove them away from their former residence in combination with what was appealing about moving to Lincoln County. However, such a simplistic explanation is not entirely responsible for what is happening in the county.

A number of other factors contribute to understanding the process of migration in the region. Among these are:

- 1) religion;
- 2) labor markets;
- 3) family ties.

Religion and religious affiliation has a strong hold on many of the county's citizens, even though a majority of the business and community leaders interviewed do not belong to the prevailing religious majority--the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. It is quite evident that the center of the LDS strength is Panaca where the majority is Mormon (estimates of 65% to 90% of the population).

Many of the young people upon reaching adulthood must leave the county because of the lack of employment, and yet, they often return if an economic opportunity develops. Another often overlooked factor that contributes to return migration is family heritage and tradition. Some of the old families seem to have a mesmerizing effect upon their descendants, manifested by out-migration and returning later in life to assume leadership positions within the political and social framework of the family and the rural society.

The Mormons, as a distinct community group, represent the single largest voting block in the county which provides influence in the electoral process and simply put, translates into political power. Mormons and non-Mormons are both aware of this fact and observation strongly suggests they are generally at odds over what the government should provide. Despite the disparity in their views concerning business, society, and religion, Mormon and non-Mormon business and community leaders are in strong agreement that if the high-level nuclear waste repository proposed for Yucca Mountain is built, it will have a positive effect upon Nevada and their communities. They are cautious, however, feeling the effects are probably of a limited nature. This hesitant reaction is based upon a clear distrust of the federal government and the

promises made by and broken by government in the past.

Many of the Mormons are divided as to their perceptions of the federal government and its projects, however, one of the LDS elites, is an outspoken promoter of the Yucca Mountain project for economic reasons. This individual is an emigrant that has resided in the area for nearly twenty years and believes that the county needs an infusion of money and resources to stimulate what he regards as a stagnant economy. Among the more recent arrivals, both non-Mormon and Mormon, this desire for an economy of growth is evident but it is an attitude that is not shared with the older well-established commercial and political families. In general, it appears that the patriarchs within the LDS are against any significant changes, which could conceivably threaten their control or shift decision-making power outside of the status-quo. In spite of this respect for authority and deference to elders, which is often used by the ruling elites to impose social control, it would seem that a growing number of the younger Mormons want economic growth, and despite apparent risk feel the proposed Yucca Mountain project would provide an infusion of economic stimuli.

A majority of those interviewed think some growth is needed to keep the population stable. Whereas most citizens want economic development they are divided as to how such growth should occur and

how much expansion is good for the community. Several respondents were wary of an extensive economic boom and its negative affects upon their rural lifestyle. Those who have established businesses in the past ten years were especially adamant about controlling growth and keeping "the Las Vegas mentality" out of their town. A few respondents, who have recently moved into the area, felt that the Yucca Mountain project is potentially a threat to their current lifestyle if it initiates large-scale migration. One of their major fears was of what they called a "Californication" of what they see as a quaint and picturesque region.

When discussing a variety of topics with the citizens of the area some interesting political trends are apparent. For example, many of the business and community leaders expressed a strong dislike for activists; people with both the Democrat and Republican political party alliance expressed general disdain and disrespect for militant environmentalists and peace activists; even those who identified themselves as liberal and are typically found to be supportive of special interest groups stated they did not believe the information from environmentalists or anti-nuclear groups had any validity. Indeed, the data these special interest groups had used to present arguments were considered self-serving lies designed to support some other goals, irrelevant to the needs of

Lincoln County.

Generally speaking, most of the technical advisors who have been providing information in the area were seen in a positive light which is a finding consistent with other literature in the field (Soden, 1994). The federal government's spokes-people received lower trust ratings than the state or private industry counterparts. Technical experts are accepted, within limits, but official representatives from any branch of government are thought to supply information that is distorted and self-serving (M. Wright, 1993, Olson, 1993). The only individual rated as less-trusted than the Department of Energy and its contractors was Nevada's Governor, Bob Miller. After completing more than nine months of fieldwork we have ascertained that nearly all parties involved in the Yucca Mountain issue have serious image problems, which must be overcome before the people will accept any of the government's findings as valid.

From a political perspective, a majority of the respondents are registered to vote and have done so regularly. Overall, political participation may be viewed as high, particularly within the business community. It seems that the Democrats have a clear majority over the Republicans, but upon further questioning regarding political orientation most of the citizens identified

with the issues along similar lines, suggesting, as in other areas of Nevada that political parties are weak and poor indicators of policy preference (Gerlak and Soden, 1993; Soden and Simich, 1992). There is also a strong contingent of people who consider themselves independents who vote for whomever they think is the best candidate, not along any party line, and it is expected that party line crossing may be routine in this area (Giddings, 1993; Travis, 1993). Some of the people classified themselves as extremely conservative or extremely liberal but when pressed about specific issues did lean more to moderate or middle-of-the-road positions. (Klomp, 1993; Eizman, 1993).

All the members of the cohort have a high school degree and about 50% had attended some form of a trade school or college institution. Only two respondents had completed their university educations (Giddings, 1993; Klomp, 1993). Twenty percent of the men interviewed had served in the armed forces and during their tenures had received specialized training or college classes. The majority of Lincoln County residents interviewed are well-informed about Yucca Mountain and predominately acquire their information concerning the project from reading newspapers and popular literature pertaining to the issues. Television news reports were also cited as a source of data by our respondents who said they

often discussed what they have read with their friends and relatives after watching a news flash or television documentary, thus, it appears that the video image served as a catalyst for debate.

Overall, the people who reside in Lincoln County have a positive mental attitude and are content with their lifestyle. Several business leaders are, however, looking to move on due to the poor economic conditions which have taken a toll on them personally (Long, 1993). When presented with the theoretical question: "If you had a choice to move anywhere in the world where would you choose to go? The majority desired an even more remote or rural area than Lincoln County (Long, 1993; Eizman, 1993; Wright, 1993). The desire to relocate to regions more isolated than their present location suggests that the local residents strongly prefer the small-town atmosphere.

When the people were asked if there were specific communities they desired relocating their families to, several identified two states, Colorado and Utah as the most desirable. Of the in state areas that a majority would choose, they preferred White Pine County, Nevada, North of Lincoln County Nevada (Long, 1993; Giddings, 1993; Wright, 1993). Only one respondent indicated a desire to move back into a city and that individual wants to escape

from the "boring and mundane" life of the sleepy town of Caliente (Giddings, 1993). Although there are voices of discontent, most of the respondents indicated they enjoyed living in small close-knit towns and think live would improve with an economic transfusion on a small to moderate scale.

SECTION V: MIGRATION SURVEY: FINDINGS

A major focus of this project was to obtain data about migration patterns among Lincoln County residents. To do so in an exhaustive, yet cost-effective fashion, resulted in developing a telephone survey instrument and conducting lengthy interviews (up to a half-hour on average) with key family members in Lincoln County. The survey (See Appendix C) was conducted among 356 respondents, representing their respective households, during the late winter and early spring of 1993. The interviews conducted addressed a number of issues related to migration and were designed to obtain patterns relating to family members, as well as those of the individual respondent.

The sample for the survey was developed using random-digit dial, stratified by each prefix in the county based on the proportional share of residents residing in that prefix area. Only household phone numbers were used, except in cases where business and residential phones were in common, an occurrence which is not unusual in rural areas. The demographic attributes of the respondents are provided in Table 1, and are compared to the 1990 Census. The respondents do not mirror the census for a number of reasons. First, only respondents over 18 years of age were surveyed. Second, because we were looking at family migration

patterns, often the eldest member of the household with the most knowledge about the family became the respondent, thereby pushing average age higher. Given the emphasis on migration, and the need to obtain knowledge from an informed respondent, there is no serious concern about the data collected. In fact, only in the upper age groups is there a serious discrepancy from the census percentages, which is likewise reflected in the average age being dramatically higher.

TABLE 1
Demographic Characteristics of Survey Respondents in Comparison
to the 1990 Census for Lincoln County

Demographic Characteristic	Frequency (%)	
	Survey Respondents	1990 Census
Age		
less than 18	-0-	1279 (34.0)
18-24	18 (5.1)	209 (6.0)
25-34	48 (13.4)	480 (13.0)
35-44	63 (17.7)	381 (10.0)
45-54	55 (15.5)	458 (12.0)
55-64	64 (18.0)	369 (10.0)
65-69	29 (8.1)	202 (5.0)
70-74	39 (11.0)	152 (4.0)
75 and older	40 (11.2)	245 (6.0)

Total	356 (100.0)	3775 (100.0)
Mean Age	53	36

Gender

Male	125 (35.1)	1964 (52.0)
Female	231 (64.9)	1811 (48.0)
Total	356 (100.0)	3775 (100.0)

Marital Status

Married	241 (67.7)	1,691 (60.0)
Single	22 (6.2)	
Never married	30 (8.4)	634 (23.0)
Divorced or separated	60 (16.9)	382 (14.0)
Widowed	3 (0.8)	234 (8.0)
Total	356 (100.0)	

Household Size

One	82 (23.0)
Two	127 (35.7)
Three	33 (9.3)
Four	46 (12.9)
Five	23 (6.5)
Six	17 (4.8)
Seven	11 (3.1)
Eight	7 (2.0)
Nine	1 (2.8)
Total	356 (100.0)

Mean Household Size 2.975 2.5

Frequency (%)

Number of Children in Household

None	220 (61.8)	
One	26 (7.3)	
Two	41 (11.5)	With children less
Three	31 (8.7)	than 18 years of age
Four	12 (3.4)	27%
Five	12 (3.4)	
Six	5 (1.4)	
Seven	5 (1.4)	
Eight	1 (0.3)	
Nine	3 (0.8)	
<hr/>		
Total	356 (100.0)	

School Enrollment

Preschool	28 (.79)
None	321 (90.1)
One child	30 (8.4)
Two children	4 (1.1)
Three children	1 (0.3)
<hr/>	
Total	356 (100.0)/39 students

Elementary	
None	265 (72.7)
One	41 (11.5)
Two	36 (10.1)
Three	16 (4.5)
Four	4 (1.1)
<hr/>	
Total	356 (100.0)/177 students

Frequency (%)

High School

None	293 (82.3)
One	30 (8.4)
Two	21 (5.9)
Three	9 (2.5)
Four	3 (0.8)

Total **356 (100.0)/108 students**

Combined High School/Elementary **285 students** **929 students**

College

None	349 (98.0)	109
One	4 (1.1)	
Two	3 (0.8)	
Total	356 (100.0)/10 students	

Race or Ethnic Background

White/Caucasian	334 (93.8)	3,472 (92.0)
Hispanic	9 (2.5)	224 (6.0)
Native American	8 (2.2)	49 (1.0)
Black/African American	2 (0.6)	95 (3.0)
Asian American/Pacific Islander	3 (0.8)	10 (2.6)
Other		149 (4.0)
Total	356 (100.0)	(100.0)

Table 1-Continue**Frequency (%)****Level of Education**

Less than High School	28 (7.9)	513 (23.0)
High School/Trade		
School Graduate	138 (38.8)	743 (32.0)
Some College	119 (33.4)	611 (27.0)
College Graduate		
Two Year		120 (5.0)
Four Year	38 (10.7)	201 (9.0)
Post-Grad/		
Professional	30 (8.4)	99 (4.0)
No Response/Missing	3 (0.8)	
<hr/>		
Total	356 (100.0)	2,287 (100.0)

Family Income

under \$10,000	54 (15.2)	
\$10-15,000	44 (12.4)	
\$15-25,000	74 (20.8)	Census Mean =
\$25-35,000	76 (21.3)	\$24,512.00
\$35-50,000	67 (18.8)	
\$50-75,000	17 (4.8)	
over \$75,000	3 (0.8)	
Don't know	9 (2.5)	
Refused	1 (3.4)	
<hr/>		
Total	356 (100.0)	

TABLE 2

Primary and Secondary Occupation of Respondent and Spouse/Partner

Occupation

	Respondent		Spouse/Partner	
	Primary	Secondary	Primary	Secondary
Service Occupations				
1990 Census	322 (23.0)			
Survey Responses				
Janitorial	5 (1.5)	2 (0.6)	8 (2.3)	2 (0.6)
Postal/Delivery	1 (0.3)	2 (0.6)	2 (0.6)	-----
Food Service	9 (2.5)	3 (0.9)	2 (0.6)	2 (0.6)
Cosmetologist	2 (0.6)	-----	-----	-----
Taxi Driver	1 (0.3)	-----	7 (2.0)	-----
Child Care	-----	3 (0.9)	-----	1 (0.3)
Precision, Production, Craft and Repair				
1990 Census	133 (10.0)			
Survey Responses				
Handyman/carpenter	4 (1.1)	1 (0.3)	5 (2.5)	4 (1.2)
Power Co. Operator/				
Lineman	3 (0.8)	-----	6 (1.7)	-----
Mechanic/				
Auto technician	2 (0.6)	-----	8 (2.2)	2 (0.6)
Electrician/Plumber	1 (0.3)	-----	2 (0.6)	-----
Seamstress	-----	2 (0.6)	-----	3 (0.8)
Sheet Metal	-----	-----	1 (0.3)	-----
Managerial and Professional				
1990 Census	307 (22.0)			
Survey Responses				
Teacher	12 (3.4)	7 (2.0)	18 (5.1)	2 (0.6)
Youth counselor	10 (2.8)	-----	2 (0.6)	-----
Business owner/				
Self-employed	15 (4.2)	13 (4.2)	14 (3.9)	5 (1.5)
Registered nurse	6 (1.7)	1 (0.3)	5 (1.4)	-----
Property management	1 (0.3)	1 (0.3)	4 (1.1)	-----
Social work/				
Social services	2 (0.6)	1 (0.3)	4 (1.1)	1 (0.3)
Computer Consulting	1 (0.3)	1 (0.3)	-----	-----
Scientist	2 (0.6)	1 (0.3)	3 (0.8)	-----
Manager	8 (2.2)	4 (1.1)	7 (2.0)	-----

Pastor/minister	1 (0.3)	-----	-----	-----
Law Enforcement	4 (1.1)	-----	8 (2.2)	-----
Resource Management	3 (0.9)	-----	4 (1.1)	-----
Librarian	1 (0.3)	-----	2 (0.6)	-----
Judge/Lawyer	1 (0.3)	-----	1 (0.3)	-----
Auditor/Accountant	-----	-----	2 (0.6)	2 (0.6)
Military	-----	-----	2 (0.6)	2 (0.6)

Technical, Sales, and Administrative Support

1990 Census 373 (27.0)

Survey Responses

Administrative Support/

Clerical	11 (3.2)	5 (1.5)	9 (2.5)	2 (0.6)
Teaching Aid	5 (1.4)	-----	2 (0.6)	-----
Cashier	7 (2.0)	2 (0.6)	-----	2 (0.6)
Surveyors	1 (0.3)	-----	1 (0.3)	-----
Sales Clerk	4 (1.1)	-----	-----	-----
Salesperson	3 (0.9)	1 (0.3)	6 (1.7)	-----

Operators, Fabricators, Laborers

1990 Census 143 (10.0)

Survey Responses

Heavy equipment

operator	7 (2.0)	3 (0.8)	9 (2.6)	-----
Road Crew	1 (0.3)	1 (0.3)	4 (1.1)	-----
Miner	3 (0.8)	-----	3 (0.8)	1 (0.3)
Foreman	1 (0.3)	-----	1 (0.3)	-----
Railroad	2 (0.6)	-----	-----	-----
Driver	-----	2 (0.6)	-----	-----
Unemployed	16 (4.5)	-----		
Undisclosed	87 (24.4)	-----		
Retired	112 (31.5)	8 (2.2)		

Total 356 (100.0)

PERCENTAGE WITH SECONDARY OCCUPATION AMONG RESPONDENTS= 15.7%

PERCENTAGE OF SPOUSES EMPLOYED= 63.0% (Based on Marital Status)

PERCENTAGE OF SPOUSES OR PARTNERS WITH SECONDARY OCCUPATION= 12.9%

Demographic Highlights

- > Based on Household Size in the Spring of 1993, the population estimate may be greater than the 1990 Census by as much as fifteen percent.
- > A large number rely on secondary occupation to supplement their incomes.
- > The survey conducted for this study appears representative of the population in Lincoln County.

The remaining findings are presented at the frequency level in order to provide a first-level analysis of the migration phenomenon in Lincoln County. As such they provide an in-depth set of data, which, in combination with the data provided in the other sections of this report, focusing on the political culture of the county, the attitudes of past residents of Lincoln County, and a high school cohort pilot study, give a concise picture of the impact of migration on Lincoln County.

TABLE 3

In general, how do you feel about living in Lincoln County?

	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>(%)</u>
Very Satisfied	250	(70.2)
Somewhat Satisfied	89	(25.0)
Not Satisfied at all	17	(4.8)

Total	356	(100.0)

> Well over two-thirds of the residents of Lincoln County are "Very Satisfied" with general living conditions

TABLE 4

Where you born here in Lincoln County, or did you move here?

Origin	Frequency	(%)
Born in Lincoln County	85	(23.9)
Moved to Lincoln County	271	(76.1)
	-----	-----
Total	356	(100.0)

> Three-quarters of the residents have in-migrated to Lincoln County.

TABLE 5

What year did you first move into Lincoln County?

Year	Frequency	(%)
Before 1920	3	(0.8)
1920-1929	4	(1.1)
1930-1939	9	(2.5)
1940-1949	17	(4.8)
1950-1959	10	(2.9)
1960-1969	29	(8.1)
1970-1979	57	(16.0)
1980-1989	95	(26.7)
1990-1993	41	(14.5)
Born in Lincoln County or Do not recall	86	(24.2)
	-----	-----
Total	356	(100.0)

> Greatest influx in 1980s

> Suggestion of considerable growth for remainder of 1990s

TABLE 6**Why did you move to Lincoln County?**

	Frequency	(%)
REASONS FOR MOVING		
Family Related		
As a child	35	(9.8)
Family/Relatives	28	(7.9)
Marriage	14	(3.9)
Moved with spouse	4	(1.1)
Liked the schools	1	(0.3)
To raise children	1	(0.3)
Job or Career Related		
Job/Employment/Work	90	(25.0)
Armed services	3	(0.8)
Rural Lifestyle Preferred		
Small community	8	(2.2)
Lifestyle	2	(0.6)
Crime/gangs	3	(0.8)
Quietness	4	(1.1)
Scenic area	1	(0.3)
Ruralness	5	(1.4)
Clean air	5	(1.4)
To get out of		
Las Vegas	11	(3.1)
Los Angeles	2	(0.6)
Liked the people	1	(0.3)
Investment or Economic		
Cost of living	3	(0.8)
Business	1	(0.3)
Purchased property	6	(1.7)
Retirement		
Retirement	28	(7.9)
Other Reasons		
Health/medical	3	(0.8)
Weather/climate	3	(0.8)
Liked everything	3	(0.8)

TABLE 6-continue

To get out of		
Mesquite	1	(0.3)
Just wanted to move	1	(0.3)
Native	87	(24.4)
No Response	2	(0.6)
Total	356	(100.0)

- > Major reason to move to Lincoln County is Family-related.
- > Career, Economic and Rural Conditions are secondary in-migration forces.
- > Nearly one-quarter of the responding residents are natives.

POTENTIAL MIGRATION

Tables 7 through 12 record potential migration patterns among residents of Lincoln County. While there is a latent potential for migration within the western United States, overall, general intentions among the residents are to remain in Lincoln County.

TABLE 7

Have you lived in Lincoln County on a continuous basis since you were born or arrived in Lincoln County, or have you lived somewhere else and then returned?

Response Categories	Frequency	(%)
Returned	100	(28.1)
Continuous	256	(71.9)

Total	356	(100.0)

> Majority of the population has not out-migrated after coming to Lincoln County.

> Over one-quarter have left and returned at least one time.

TABLE 8

During the time you have lived in Lincoln county as an adult, how often have you thought about leaving the county?

Response Categories	Frequency	(%)
Frequently	29	(8.1)
Sometimes	48	(13.5)
Rarely	37	(10.4)
Never	142	(39.9)
No Answer	100	(28.1)
<hr/>		
Total	356	(100.0)

- > Over one-half have "never" or "rarely" thought about leaving Lincoln County.
- > Less than ten percent have "frequently" considered leaving Lincoln County.

TABLE 9
How serious were you about moving?

	Frequency	(%)
Very serious	24	(6.7)
Somewhat serious	45	(12.6)
Not very serious at all	35	(9.8)
No Answer	252	(70.8)
<hr/>		
Total	356	(100.0)

- > Less than twenty percent feel they were serious about migrating out of Lincoln County.

TABLE 10

If you had decided to move away from Lincoln County, where would you most likely have moved?

State	Location	Frequency	(%)
NEVADA			
	Las Vegas	16	(4.5)
	Ely	3	(0.8)
	Reno	2	(0.6)
	Henderson	2	(0.6)
	E. . .	2	(0.6)
	Fallon	2	(0.6)
	Carson City	1	(0.3)
	Boulder City	1	(0.3)
	Laughlin	1	(0.3)
	Overton	1	(0.3)
	Austin	1	(0.3)
UTAH			
	St. George	4	(1.1)
	Cedar City	3	(0.8)
	Richfield	1	(0.3)
	Hurricane	1	(0.3)
	Logan	1	(0.3)
	Salt Lake City	1	(0.3)
CALIFORNIA			
	Los Angeles	1	(0.3)
	San Diego	1	(0.3)
COLORADO			
	Dillon	1	(0.3)
	Greeley	1	(0.3)
NEW MEXICO			
	Santa Fe	2	(0.6)
NEBRASKA			
	Lincoln	1	(0.3)
WASHINGTON			
	Seattle	1	(0.3)
MONTANA			
	Enid	1	(0.3)
	Kalispel	1	(0.3)
	Marion	1	(0.3)
IDAHO			
	Burley	1	(0.3)

Table 10- continue

Other

Guam	1	(0.3)
New England	1	(0.3)
Northwest	1	(0.3)
Undecided	6	(1.7)
Out of the Country	1	(0.3)
Anywhere	8	(2.2)
No Answer/		
Not Applicable	283	(79.5)
<hr/>		
Total	356	(100.0)

> Among residents who have considered out-migration, the primary choices are western states, and within state migration.

MAP OF POTENTIAL MIGRATION PATTERNS

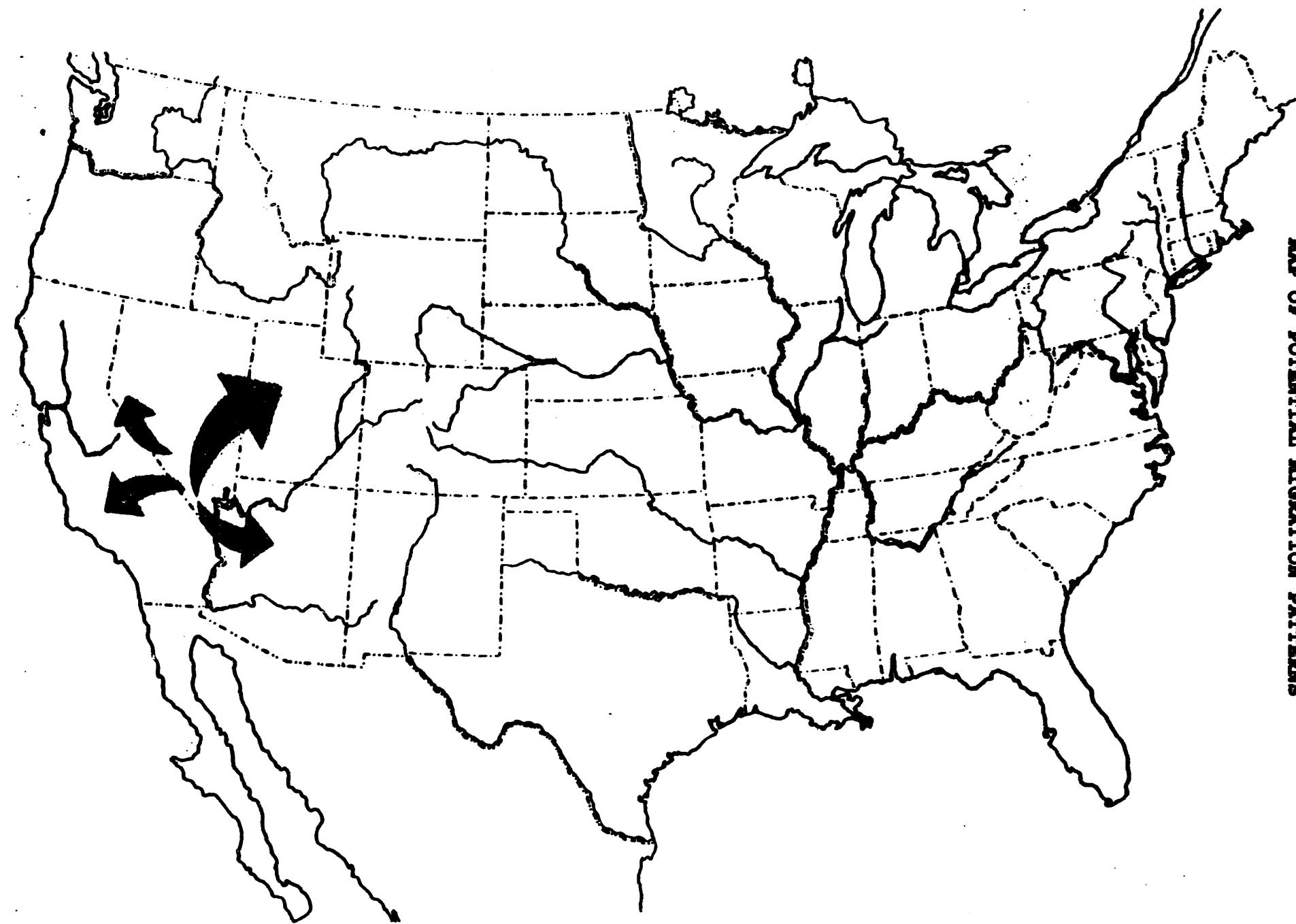


TABLE 11
What would have been the major reason for the move?

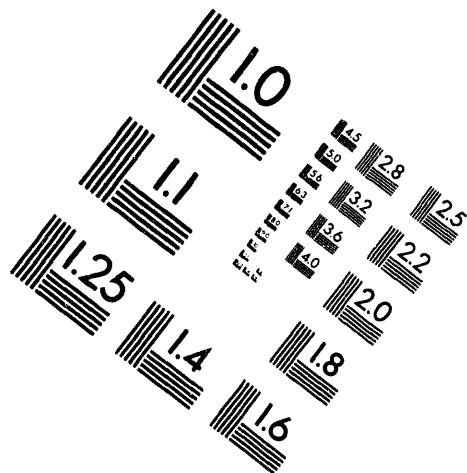
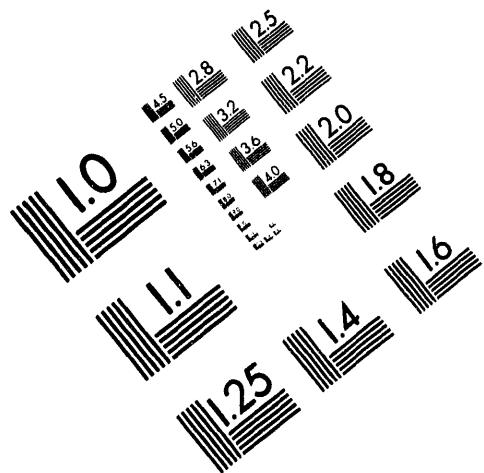
REASON	Frequency	(%)
Family/relatives	9	(2.5)
Job/employment/work	35	(9.8)
Rural Dissatisfaction		
More living choices	1	(0.3)
Small community/town	8	(2.2)
Lifestyle	2	(0.6)
More social life	2	(0.6)
Better facilities	3	(0.8)
Unhappy here	1	(0.3)
Larger town	2	(0.6)
Economic or Investment		
Business	1	(0.3)
Better opportunities	2	(0.6)
Wages/income	2	(0.6)
Purchased property	1	(0.3)
Government intervention in ranching	1	(0.3)
Education		
Attend school/college	2	(0.6)
Environmental		
Scenic area	3	(0.8)
Isolation	2	(0.6)
Toxic wastes	2	(0.6)
Bombing range noise/impact	1	(0.3)
To get away from crowds	1	(0.3)
Health and Medical		
Health/medical	5	(1.4)
Lack of hospital	2	(0.6)
Retirement		
Other	4	(1.1)
Had everything I wanted	1	(0.3)
Too many LDS	1	(0.3)
MX Missile	1	(0.3)
Something different	3	(0.9)



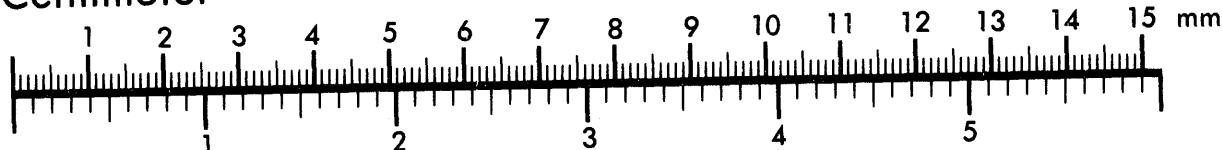
AIM

Association for Information and Image Management

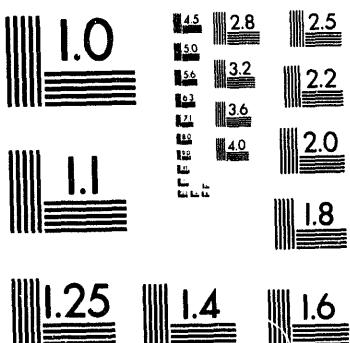
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Silver Spring, Maryland 20910
301/587-8202



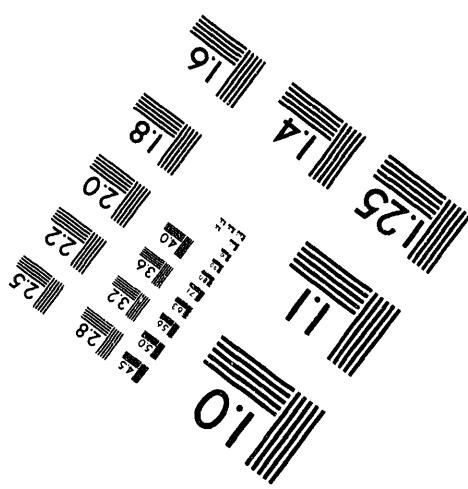
Centimeter



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2 of 3

Table 11- continue

Friends there	1	(0.3)
Birthplace	1	(0.3)
Previous home	1	(0.3)
No t Applicable\No Answer	<u>255</u>	<u>(71.6)</u>
Total	356	(100.0)

> Major reason to potentially move would be family-based.

> Environmental and medical concerns are raised as potential factors for out-migration.

TABLE 12

If the move had taken place, would it have been only yourself or would it have included other members of your family?

Response Categories	Frequency	(%)
Respondent	22	(6.2)
Other family members	81	(22.8)
Not Applicable/Missing	253	(71.1)
Total	356	(100.0)

> Most potential moves include other family members

PATTERNS OF OUT-MIGRATION

For those respondents who actually moved out of Lincoln and have returned, Tables 13 to 17 record their migration patterns.

TABLE 13

Which City did you move to?

		Frequency (%)	
	<u>First Move</u>	<u>Second Move</u>	<u>Third Move</u>
NEVADA			
Las Vegas	27	(7.6)	3 (0.8)
Reno	6	(1.7)	3 (0.8)
Ely	4	(1.1)	3 (0.8)
Henderson	2	(0.6)	
Yerington	2	(0.6)	
Carlin	1	(0.3)	
Esmeralda			
County	1	(0.3)	
Beatty	1	(0.3)	
Gabbs	1	(0.3)	
Indian			
Springs	1	(0.3)	
Echo Bay	1	(0.3)	
Gardnerville	1	(0.3)	
Hawthorne	1	(0.3)	
UTAH			
St. George	2	(0.6)	
Cedar City	2	(0.6)	
Beaver	2	(0.6)	
Salt Lake			
City	2	(0.6)	1 (0.3)
Eureka	1	(0.3)	
Orem	1	(0.3)	1 (0.3)
Delta	1	(0.3)	
Provo	2	(0.6)	1 (0.3)
Heber City	1	(0.3)	

Table 13- continue

MONTANA				
Enid	1	(0.3)		
TEXAS				
Austin	1	(0.3)		
Taft	1	(0.3)		
Lavon	1	(0.3)		
IDAHO				
Payette	1	(0.3)		
CALIFORNIA				
Los Angeles	1	(0.3)	1	(0.3)
San Diego	1	(0.3)		
Barstow	1	(0.3)		
Bishop	1	(0.3)		
Redlands	----		1	(0.3)
Bakersfield			1	(0.3)
ARIZONA				
Phoenix	1	(0.3)	1	(0.3)
Holbrook	1	(0.3)		
Fredonia	1	(0.3)		
NEW MEXICO				
Questa	1	(0.3)		
OREGON				
Adrian	1	(0.3)		
WASHINGTON			1	(0.3)
WYOMING				
Jeffrey City				1 (0.3)
OTHER	2	(0.6)		
Out of the Country	2	(0.6)	2	(0.6)
Not Applicable\				
Missing	276	(77.5)	338	(95.0)
				355 (99.7)
 Total	 356	 (100.0)	 356	 (100.0)
				356 (100.0)

> Among those who have previously moved, Clark County and other parts of Nevada were the most often recorded.

> Utah was the second most common out-migration destination.

TABLE 14
Length of Out-Migration

<u>Duration in Years</u>	<u>Frequency (%)</u>		
	<u>First Move</u>	<u>Second Move</u>	<u>Third Move</u>
Less than one	8 (2.3)	2 (0.6)	1 (0.3)
One	12 (3.4)	6 (1.7)	
Two	19 (5.3)	6 (1.7)	
Three			
to Five	19 (5.3)	2 (0.6)	
Six to Ten	14 (4.8)	3 (0.9)	
Eleven to Fifteen	5 (1.5)	2 (0.6)	
Sixteen to Twenty	6 (1.7)	1 (0.3)	
Twenty-one to Thirty	7 (2.1)	2 (0.6)	
Thirty-one to Forty		8 (2.4)	-----
Not Applicable/ Missing	258 (72.5)	332 (93.3)	355 (99.7)
Total	356 (100.0)	356 (100.0)	356 (100.0)

> Median duration among those who have out-migrated and returned is three to five years.

TABLE 15
What was the major reason for the move?

<u>REASON</u>	Frequency (%)		
	<u>First Move</u>	<u>Second Move</u>	<u>Third Move</u>
Job or Career Related			
Job/employment	43 (12.1)	15 (4.2)	1 (0.3)
Business	2 (0.6)		
Family Related			
Family/relatives/			
children	15 (4.2)		
Marriage	5 (1.4)		
Spouse relocated	1 (0.3)		
Homesick	1 (0.3)		
Rural Dissatisfaction			
New lifestyle	1 (0.3)		
Health\Medical			
Health	2 (0.6)		
Education			
Attend school/college	20 (5.6)	5 (1.4)	
Other			
Armed services	4 (1.1)	1 (0.3)	
Personal problems	2 (0.6)	1 (0.3)	
Friends	1 (0.3)		
Caliente no longer			
rail terminus	1 (0.3)		
LDS Mission	1 (0.3)		
Divorce		1 (0.3)	
Not Applicable\Missing	258 (72.5)	332 (93.3)	355 (99.7)
Total	356 (100.0)	356 (100.0)	356 (100.0)

> Career, education and family-related reasons account for the majority of out-migrations from Lincoln County.

TABLE 16

Did you move alone or with other members of your family?

Frequency (%)

<u>Response Categories</u>	<u>First Move</u>	<u>Second Move</u>	<u>Third Move</u>
Respondent Only	39 (11.0)	12 (3.4)	1 (0.3)
Family members	61 (17.1)	12 (3.4)	
Not Applicable\			
Missing	256 (71.9)	332 (93.3)	355 (99.7)
<hr/> Total	<hr/> 356 (100.0)	<hr/> 356 (100.0)	<hr/> 356 (100.0)

> Most cases of out-migration included family members.

TABLE 17
Why did you come back?

	Frequency (%)	First Move	Second Move	Third Move
Job or Career Related				
Job/employment				
/career	39 (11.0)		11 (3.1)	1 (0.3)
Income	1 (0.3)		3 (0.8)	
Family-Related				
Family	14 (3.9)		1 (0.3)	
Spouse				
relocated	1 (0.3)			
Marriage	2 (0.6)		1 (0.3)	
Homesick	5 (1.4)		1 (0.3)	
Rural Lifestyle				
Small town	2 (0.6)			
To get out of				
Las Vegas	3 (0.8)			
Everything	7 (2.0)		2 (0.5)	
Visited and				
stayed	1 (0.3)			
Safety	1 (0.3)			
Economic or Investment				
Cost of				
living	3 (0.8)			
Retirement	7 (2.0)		1 (0.3)	
Other				
Health	3 (0.8)		1 (0.3)	
Armed				
services	1 (0.3)			
Finished school				
and returned	2 (0.6)		1 (0.3)	
Personal problems	1 (0.3)		1 (0.3)	
Death in family	1 (0.3)		1 (0.3)	
Divorce	3 (0.8)			
Did not like				
other place	2 (0.6)			
Not applicable\				
Missing	257 (72.2)		332 (93.3)	355 (99.7)
Total	356 (100.0)		356 (100.0)	356 (100.0)

> Return migration has most often been motivated by jobs, family and retirement

FUTURE MIGRATION PLANS

TABLE 18

At the present time are there any members of your household including, yourself, who may be planning to move out of Lincoln County for whatever reasons?

<u>Response</u>	Frequency	(%)
Yes	36	(10.1)
Possibly	16	(4.5)
NO	305	(85.4)
Total	356	(100.0)

> Ten percent of the respondents intend, or have members of the family who intend to move out of Lincoln County.

TABLE 19

Would this move likely involve all the members of your household, just some of you, or is it one person only?

	Frequency	(%)
One or some	23	(6.5)
All	28	(7.9)
Not applicable/		
Missing	305	(85.7)
Total	356	(100.0)

> Proposed migration is essentially equally distributed between individual family members and entire households.

TABLE 20**If individual family member what is their age?**

Age	Frequency	(%)
Not Applicable/		
Missing	333	(93.5)
18	8	(2.2)
19	2	(0.6)
20	2	(0.6)
21	1	(0.3)
22	1	(0.3)
24	1	(0.3)
25	2	(0.6)
26	1	(0.3)
30-39	3	(0.9)
40-49	2	(0.6)
50-59	2	(0.6)
over 60	1	(0.3)
<hr/>		
Total	353	(100.0)

> Most future out-migration is planned by individuals under thirty years of age.

TABLE 21**If individual family member what is there gender?**

Gender	Frequency	(%)
Not Applicable/Missing		
Male	17	(4.8)
Female	9	(2.5)
<hr/>		
Total	353	(100.0)

TABLE 22

Where would your household or individual family member likely move to?

STATE	First Choice Family/Individual	Frequency (%)		
		Second Choice Family	Third Choice Family	
NEVADA	1 (0.3)			
Las Vegas	2 (0.6)/2 (2.8)	1 (0.3)	1 (0.3)	
Boulder City	1 (0.3)/1 (0.3)			
Ely	2 (0.6)			
Henderson		1 (0.3)		
Elko	/1 (0.3)			
Wendover	/1 (0.3)			
UTAH	1 (0.3)/2 (0.6)	1 (0.3)		
St. George	2 (0.6)/2 (0.6)	1 (0.3)		
Logan	1 (0.3)			
Salt Lake				
City	1 (0.3)			
Hurricane	1 (0.3)			
Cedar City	/1 (0.3)	1 (0.3)		
MONTANA	1 (0.3)	1 (0.3)		
Kalispel	1 (0.3)			
Enid		/1 (0.3)		
CALIFORNIA		/1 (0.3)		
Ontario	1 (0.3)			
COLORADO				
Greeley		/1 (0.3)		
HAWAII	1 (0.3)			
IDAHO	1 (0.3)	1 (0.3)	1 (0.3)	
Shelley			1 (0.3)	
OREGON	1 (0.3)			2 (0.6)
ALASKA		/1 (0.3)		
KENTUCKY		/1 (0.3)		
LOUISIANA		/1 (0.3)		

Table 22- continued

SOUTH DAKOTA		1 (0.3)
WASHINGTON	1 (0.3)	1 (0.3)
OTHERS		
Guam	1 (0.3)	
Northwest		1 (0.3)
Don't know	3 (0.9)/3 (0.8)	
<u>Not Applicable</u>	<u>334 (93.8) / 335 (94.1)</u>	<u>350 (98.3) 350 (98.3)</u>
Total	356 (100.0)	356 (100.0) 356 (100.0)

> Proposed future migration would primarily occur in the western states

TABLE 23
How soon would you likely leave?

Time Frame	Frequency (%)	
	FAMILY	INDIVIDUAL
Within the next		
six months	11 (3.1)	19 (5.3)
within a year	4 (1.2)	3 (0.8)
Over one year	8 (2.4)	4 (1.1)
Not Applicable/		
Missing	333 (92.3)	333 (92.3)
Total	356 (100.0)	356 (100.0)

> Future migration would predominantly occur within a one year period.

TABLE 24**What would be the major reason for the move?**

REASON	Frequency (%)	
	FAMILY	INDIVIDUAL
Job/employment	12 (3.4)	15 (4.2)
Family/relatives	4 (1.1)	2 (0.6)
Cost of living	2 (0.6)	
Business	1 (0.3)	
New Lifestyle	1 (0.3)	
Health/medical	1 (0.3)	
Retirement	1 (0.3)	
Weather/climate	1 (0.3)	
Scenic area/land	1 (0.3)	
Bought property	1 (0.3)	
Bombing range noise	1 (0.3)	
Attend School\College		5 (1.4)
Seek new Opportunity		2 (0.6)
LDS Mission		1 (0.3)
Not Applicable\		
Missing	330 (92.7)	331 (93.0)
<hr/> Total	356 (100.0)	356 (100.0)

> The primary reason for future migration is job opportunities outside Lincoln County

TABLE 25

Are there any circumstances that would bring your family back to Lincoln County?

	Frequency (%)	
	Family	Individual
	Primary/ Secondary	
Retirement	1 (0.3)	1 (0.3)
Family/home	1 (0.3)	3 (0.8)
Job/employment	5 (1.4)	9 (2.8)
Quiet place	1 (0.3)	1 (0.3)
Safe	1 (0.3)	1 (0.3)
Farming/ranching	1 (0.3)	
If politics change	1 (0.3)	
If business changes	1 (0.3)/1 (0.3)	
Quality of life	1 (0.3)	1 (0.3)
Pay increase	1 (0.3)	
Schools	/1 (0.3)	
Friends	/2 (0.6)	
Graduation		1 (0.3)
Not Applicable\		
Missing	342 (96.1)/352 (98.9)	338 (94.7)
Total	356 (100%)/356 (100%)	356 (100%)

> Employment opportunities would return individuals who plan future migration to Lincoln County

TABLE 26

In particular, if the Yucca Mountain High Level Nuclear Waste Repository should be approved and started, what kind of effect would this have , one way or the other, on your decision to become a resident of Lincoln County again?

EFFECT	Frequency (%)	
	Family	Individual
A strong positive effect		3 (0.8)
A positive effect	2 (0.6)	4 (1.1)
A negative effect	6 (1.7)	1 (0.3)
A strong negative effect	1 (0.3)	
No effect at all	18 (5.1)	15 (4.2)
Not Applicable\		
Missing	329 (92.4)	336 (94.3)
<hr/> Total	<hr/> 356 (100.0)	<hr/> 356 (100.0)

> Among those planning out-migration, the construction of a high-level nuclear waste repository would appear to have only a slight impact on individual or family decisions to return to Lincoln County.

SECTION VI
SOCIAL AND POLITICAL CULTURE

As discussed in Section II, the literature which comes to bear on decisions about migration and lifestyle choices suggests that the way in which individuals conceptualize the role of government, and preferences about how society should respond to new demands, tells us a lot about why individuals choose to reside in a particular area. Indirectly the migration decisions they make may be the result of a social and political culture which does not parallel their own.

Tables 27 to 44 provide responses collected from Lincoln County residents based on a number of inquiries about social and political choices. As a set, they provide insight into the social fabric of the county and what critical choices individuals believe should be made which may come to bear on decisions associated with migration.

TABLE 27

If protecting the environment will lead to higher unemployment, which do you think is more important?

Response Category		Frequency	(%)
Job protection	1	95	(26.7)
	2	13	(3.7)
	3	26	(7.3)
Undecided	4	71	(19.9)
	5	35	(9.8)
	6	19	(5.3)
Environmental protection	7	86	(24.2)
No Answer/Missing		11	(3.0)
<hr/>			
	Total	356	100.0

> Protection of the environment at the expense of higher unemployment is almost equal among the residents of Lincoln County, suggesting a potential struggle among development forces and those favoring environmental protection.

TABLE 28

Do you feel each adult should get ahead on his/her own, or should the government provide jobs?

Frequency (%)			
Get ahead on his/her own	1	191	(53.7)
	2	21	(5.9)
	3	22	(6.2)
Undecided	4	73	(20.5)
	5	14	(3.9)
	6	6	(1.7)
Government provide jobs	7	21	(5.9)
No Answer/Missing		8	(2.2)

Total		356	100.0

> The majority of the respondents favor an individualistic political and social culture versus a government role.

TABLE 29

If small businesses were allowed to operate without government interference, do you feel that workers would get less, about the same, or more?

Frequency (%)			
Workers would get less	1	57	(16.0)
	2	18	(5.1)
	3	14	(3.9)
about the same	4	128	(36.0)
	5	27	(7.6)
	6	21	(5.9)
Workers would get more	7	62	(17.4)
No Answer/Missing		29	(8.1)

Total		356	100.0

> There is a slight preference for a government role in controlling small business in order for workers to receive more.

TABLE 30

If large national and international corporations were allowed to operate without government interference, do you think workers would get less, about the same, or more?

Frequency (%)			
Workers would get less	1	98	(27.5)
	2	25	(7.0)
	3	26	(7.3)
About the same	4	93	(26.1)
	5	16	(4.5)
	6	21	(5.9)
Workers would get more	7	55	(15.4)
No Answer/Missing		22	(6.2)

Total		356	100.0

> There is a more distinct preference for government control of large corporations in order to provide more for workers.

TABLE 31

Do you think the future of America lies in science and technology, faith in a supreme being, or are you undecided?

		Frequency (%)	
Science and technology	1	93	(26.1)
	2	7	(2.0)
	3	19	(5.3)
Undecided	4	90	(25.3)
	5	26	(7.3)
	6	17	(4.8)
Faith in a supreme being	7	93	(26.1)
No Answer/Missing		11	(3.1)

	Total	356	100.0

> There is near equal belief that science and technology and faith in a supreme being will be important in the nation's future. These responses indicate the strong role of religious factors in the community, inasmuch as the frequency of response of belief for a role of a supreme being is considerably greater than in other areas where religious groups are less-prevalent.

TABLE 32

Where would you place yourself on a scale of political outlook?

		Frequency (%)	
Very Liberal	1	26	(7.3)
	2	3	(0.8)
	3	13	(3.7)
Middle of the Road	4	154	(43.3)
	5	31	(8.7)
	6	32	(9.0)
Very Conservative	7	87	(24.4)
Missing/No Answer		10	(2.8)

Total		356	(100.0)

> Political outlook is oriented towards the conservative end of the spectrum, an attitude consistent with preference for individualistic political and social culture, and preserving the status-quo.

TABLE 33

What do you consider yourself to be on economic issues?

	Value	Frequency (%)
Liberal	31	(8.7)
Moderate	137	(38.5)
Conservative	147	(41.3)
No preference	37	(10.4)
Missing		
/No Answer	4	(1.3)
	-----	-----
Total	356	100.0

> Conservatism prevails in recorded attitudes towards economic issues.

TABLE 34

What do you consider yourself to be on social issues?

	Value	Frequency (%)
Liberal	42	(11.8)
Moderate	126	(35.4)
Conservative	154	(43.3)
No preference	30	(8.4)
Missing/No Answer	4	(1.1)
	-----	-----
Total	356	100.0

> Conservatism and moderate attitudes carry through to social issues, suggesting a stable political base which varies little about public policy questions.

TABLE 35

What is your political party preference?

	Frequency	(%)
Republican	123	(34.6)
Democrat	158	(44.4)
Libertarian	2	(0.6)
Independent	65	(18.3)
Other	2	(0.6)
Missing/No Answer	6	(1.7)
<hr/>		
Total	356	100.0

> Political party preference favors Democrat, which is consistent with a statewide trend, yet inconsistent with conservative ideology. Overall, however, party politics is weak in the state and affiliation is only a marginal indicator of the political culture.

TABLE 36

Are you currently registered to vote?

Response	Frequency	(%)
Yes	315	(88.5)
Not sure	10	(2.8)
No	28	(7.9)
Missing/No Answer	3	(0.8)
<hr/>		
Total	356	100.0

> Voter registration is high suggesting a population which could be mobilized for ballot issues.

TABLE 37

Did you vote in the last election, the general election?

Response	Frequency	(%)
Yes	313	(87.9)
No	40	(11.2)
Missing/No Answer	3	(0.8)
	-----	-----
Total	356	100.0

> Participation in recent elections is higher than the statewide average.

TABLE 38

What is your current religious affiliation or preference?

Affiliation	Frequency	(%)
Protestant	93	(26.1)
Catholic	31	(8.7)
LDS (Mormon)	164	(46.1)
Jewish	2	(0.6)
Other preference	15	(4.2)
No preference	47	(13.2)
Missing/No Answer	4	(1.1)
	-----	-----
Total	356	100.0

> Affiliation with the Church of the Latter Day Saints exists among almost one-half of the population.

TABLE 39

How important are religious beliefs in your everyday life?

	Value	Frequency	(%)
Very important	1	202	(56.7)
	2	12	(3.4)
	3	11	(3.1)
Average importance	4	84	(23.6)
	5	6	(1.7)
	6	12	(3.4)
Not at all important	7	24	(6.7)
Missing/No Answer		5	(1.4)
		-----	-----
	Total	356	100.0

> Religious beliefs are an important component of the social culture and may underscore many of the other values in the County.

TABLE 40

How often do you attend religious services of any kind?

	Response	Frequency	(%)
More than weekly		80	(22.5)
About once a week		98	(27.5)
More than monthly		21	(5.9)
About once a month		18	(5.1)
A few times a year		46	(12.9)
Hardly ever or never		88	(24.7)
Missing/No Answer		5	(1.4)
	-----	-----	-----
	Total	356	100.0

> A high level of religious service attendance verifies the previously noted importance of religious beliefs among Lincoln County residents.

TABLE 41

Other than religious services, how often do you attend meetings or get-togethers of religiously oriented clubs or organizations?

Response	Frequency	(%)
More than weekly	26	(7.3)
About once a week	38	(10.7)
More than monthly	23	(6.5)
About once a month	48	(13.5)
A few times a year	51	(14.3)
Hardly ever or never	164	(46.1)
No Answer/Missing	6	(1.7)
<hr/>		
Total	356	100.0

>Other than religious services, other religious activities are more limited to a smaller segment of the population.

TABLE 42

About how often do you attend meetings or get-togethers of clubs or organizations other than those of a religious orientation?

Response	Frequency	(%)
More than weekly	16	(4.5)
About once a week	31	(8.7)
More than monthly	29	(8.1)
About once a month	57	(16.0)
A few times a year	49	(13.8)
Hardly ever	168	(47.2)
Never	2	(0.6)
Missing/No Answer	4	(1.1)
<hr/>		
Total	356	100.0

> In general, participation in group activities is high with nearly 40 percent participating at least one a month in organizations or club functions.

TABLE 43

What is the organization's name?*

Organization	Frequency	(%)
Dance clubs	7	(1.9)
Pioche Heritage Productions	1	(0.3)
Chamber of Commerce	11	(3.1)
So. Nevada Employment (SNEA)	2	(0.6)
Hospital Auxiliary	4	(1.1)
Volunteer Fire Dept./		
Ambulance	17	(4.8)
Pioneer Territory East	2	(0.6)
Motorcycling Clubs	1	(0.3)
Senior Citizen Center	16	(4.5)
Booster Clubs	4	(1.1)
Fraternal/Professional	2	(0.6)
Water supply meetings	4	(1.1)
Cattleman's Association	2	(0.6)
Women's/Men's club	3	(0.9)
Little League	6	(1.7)
Parent-Teachers Assoc.	24	(6.7)
Rotary Club	5	(1.4)
Community theater	4	(1.1)
Commissioner meetings	7	(1.9)
School Board	4	(1.1)
Relief Society	1	(0.3)
Nature Conservancy	2	(0.6)
Christian Clubs	3	(0.9)
Veterans of Foreign Wars	10	(2.9)
American Cancer Society	2	(0.6)
Arts and Literature Clubs	4	(1.1)
4-H Club	6	(1.7)
Teachers Association	3	(0.9)
Sunshine Club	1	(0.3)
Pioche Rod and Gun Club	5	(1.4)
Sportsmen Club	5	(1.4)
Utility Board Meetings	8	(2.4)
Rachel Community Comm.	2	(0.6)
Society for Range Mgt.	1	(0.3)
Farm Bureau	4	(1.1)
Archeology group	2	(0.6)

Table 43-continue

Boy Scouts	8	(2.3)
Search and Rescue	4	(1.1)
Masonic Lodge	5	(1.4)
Card/bingo club	4	(1.1)
Town Board	11	(3.1)
Police Organization	1	(0.3)
BLM	1	(0.3)
Lions Club	1	(0.3)
Eastern Star	5	(1.4)
Rodeo Association	4	(1.1)
Elks Lodge	2	(0.6)
Art Council	4	(1.1)
School functions		
/alumni	7	(2.0)
Weight loss groups	1	(0.3)
Horse Associations	2	(0.6)
Rebekah Lodge	2	(0.6)
American Legion	4	(1.1)
TV/Radio Board	2	(0.6)
Knights of Pythias	2	(0.6)
Disabled Veterans	1	(0.3)
Drug Counseling	1	(0.3)
Crisis Center	1	(0.3)
Home School Org.	1	(0.3)
No participation or Missing	185	(51.9)

* The question was asked twice to record multiple group membership and activity. Both response sets are combined for reporting purposes in this table.

> A broad range of civic and social groups are participated in by Lincoln County residents, a pattern not unusual in rural regions where civic, fraternal and religiousrelated organizations often become focal points of the community.

TABLE 44

How important are clubs or organizations of this kind in your everyday life?

	Response	Frequency	(%)
Very important	1	38	(10.7)
	2	14	(3.9)
	3	17	(4.8)
Average importance	4	109	(30.6)
	5	22	(6.2)
	6	13	(3.7)
Not at all important	7	138	(38.8)
Missing/No Answer	5	(1.4)	
		-----	-----
	Total	356	100.0

> Overall, club and group activities play a marginal role and among at least fifteen percent of the population appear to play a very important role.

**SECTION VII
PAST RESIDENTS SURVEY: FINDINGS**

In this section we report the findings of a mail survey conducted in the summer of 1993 among past residents of Lincoln County. The sample was developed from a mailing list provided by the Caliente Chamber of Commerce. A total of 296 surveys were mailed out of which 31 were undeliverable. A total of 82 surveys were returned using a one-wave mailing only, resulting in a response rate of 31 percent. The survey (Appendix D) addressed the respondents living experience in Lincoln County and why they moved out of the area, as well as their potential to return in the future.

Tables 45 to 80 record the results of the survey, and reinforce the generally positive image that exists among current residents as reported in Section V.

TABLE 45
How do you currently feel about Lincoln County?

	Value	Frequency	(%)
Very satisfied	1	42	(51.2)
	2	24	(29.3)
Neutral	3	8	(9.8)
	4	6	(7.3)
Not very satisfied	5	2	(2.4)
	-----	-----	
Total		82	100.0

> Past residents record a very favorable impression about Lincoln County.

TABLE 46
Where you born in Lincoln County, or did you move there?

	Response	Frequency	(%)
Born in Lincoln County		37	(45.1)
Moved as a child		26	(31.7)
Moved as an adult		17	(20.7)
Missing/No Answer		2	(2.4)
	-----	-----	
Total		82	100.0

> The largest number of past residents were born in Lincoln County, thus out-migrating from their county of birth.

TABLE 47
At what age did you first move out of Lincoln County?

Age	Frequency	(%)
Less than one year old	1	(1.2)
5 or less	2	(2.4)
6 to 10	5	(6.1)
11 to 15	1	(1.2)
16 to 20	40	(47.6)
21 to 25	12	(14.6)
26 to 30	4	(4.8)
31 to 40	11	(13.4)
41 to 50	1	(1.2)
51 to 60	1	(1.2)
Over 60	3	(3.6)
Missing/ No Answer	2	(2.4)
	-----	-----
Total	82	100.0

> The majority of out-migration occurred during the respondent's teens or early twenties, which based on the previous table indicates they spent their youth in Lincoln County before out-migrating, a pattern similar to the current youth/young adult population as discussed in Section VII.

TABLE 48
What was the reason you moved from Lincoln County at that time?

Reason	Frequency	(%)
No response	1	(1.2)
Employment Opportunity	23	(28.0)
Military Service	8	(9.8)
Job Transfer	12	(14.6)
College\Education	23	(28.0)
Family-moved	5	(6.1)
Marriage	1	(1.2)
Retirement	2	(2.4)
Divorce	1	(1.2)
Death in Family	1	(1.2)
Dislike small town	2	(2.4)
Medical reasons	2	(2.4)
Family needs	1	(2.4)

Total	82	100.0

> The primary reasons for moving are related to employment opportunities and education beyond that available in Lincoln County.

> Job transfers as a result of the closure of the Union Pacific Railroad facility in Coolant accounted for almost fifteen percent of the moves among past residents, indicating sensitivity to changes in the economy.

TABLE 49
Did you return to Lincoln County after this initial move?

Response	Frequency	(%)
Yes	37	(45.1)
No	44	(53.7)
No Answer/Missing	1	(1.2)
	-----	-----
Total	82	100.0

> Nearly one-half of the respondents report re-migration to Lincoln County after initially moving away.

TABLE 50
If yes, how many times have you moved from Lincoln County and returned?

Number	Frequency	(%)
Not applicable/		
No response	51	(62.1)
1	11	(13.4)
2	12	(14.6)
3	7	(8.5)
4	1	(1.2)
	-----	-----
Total	82	100.0

> Among past residents, multiple incidents of re-migration are not uncommon.

TABLE 51
What was the reason for move?

Move		Frequency (%)			Third		
		First Move	Second Move				
<u>Reason</u>							
Not applicable/							
No response	37	(45.1)	62	(75.6)	77 (93.9)		
Employment opportunities	24	(29.3)	9	(11.0)	5 (6.1)		
College/Education	7	(8.5)	3	(3.6)			
Military Service	6	(7.3)	2	(2.4)			
Family moved	5	(6.1)	2	(2.4)			
Marriage			3	(3.6)			
Divorce	2	(2.4)					
Medical	1	(1.2)					
Retirement			1	(1.4)			

Total	82	100.0	82	100.0	82 100.0		

> The primary reasons for out-migration are linked to employment opportunities.

TABLE 52
Where did you move?

<u>Location</u>		Frequency	
	First Move	Second Move	Third and Greater
NEVADA			
Las Vegas	10	4	4
Reno	4	1	1
Bunkerville	1		
Ely	1	1	
Battle Mountain		1	
Carson City	1		
Wells	1		
Henderson		1	
UTAH	2	1	
Salt Lake City	6		
St. George	2	1	1
Cedar City	5		
Leeds		1	
Provo	1	3	1
Moab	1		
Ogden	1		
Enterprise	1		
Monticello	1		
CALIFORNIA	1		1
Long Beach	1		
San Diego		2	
Redondo Beach	1		
COLORADO			
Uravan		1	
IDAHO	1		
Pocatello	1		
Kellogg	1		
OREGON		1	
WASHINGTON		1	
KANSAS	1		
NEW JERSEY			1
OTHER	1		
Puerto Rico		1	

> Past moves have generally been in Nevada and the western U.S.

TABLE 53
Would you be interested in moving back to Lincoln County?

Response	Frequency	(%)
Yes	17	(20.7)
Maybe	30	(36.6)
No	34	(41.5)
Missing/No Answer	1	(1.2)
	-----	-----
Total	82	100.0

> Over one-fifth of the past residents contacted indicated they would be interested in returning to Lincoln County, and over one-third indicate they may be interested in returning.

TABLE 54

What would be needed for you to move back to Lincoln County?*

<u>Need</u>	Frequency
No response	9
Employment opportunities	25
Work for both spouses	3
More youth opportunities	2
Larger population	2
Urban amenities	13
Better medical facilities	7
Better economy in county	4
College	1
Higher pay scales	4
Better housing	2
Better transportation	1
Better civic atmosphere	3
Retirement	1
No possibility of returning	15

* Multiple responses were recorded thus the total frequency exceeds the sample size.

> Employment opportunities and urban amenities are the primary requirements which past residents would need to enhance the possibility of them returning to Lincoln County.

TABLE 55

At the present time, or sometime in the future, is anyone in your family considering moving back to Lincoln County?

Response	Frequency	(%)
Yes	15	(18.3)
No	66	(80.5)
Missing	1	(1.2)
	-----	-----
Total	82	100.0

> Nearly twenty percent of the respondents report a potential re-migration to Lincoln County among their family.

TABLE 56

If yes, who is it and why do you think they are interested in moving back?

Response <u>Individual/Reason</u>	Frequency	(%)
Respondent/Retirement	3	(3.7)
Brother/Retirement	1	(1.2)
Respondent/Quality of Life	2	(2.4)
Niece/Quality of Life	1	(1.2)
Daughter-Spouse/If jobs available	1	(1.2)
Daughter/Quality of Life	1	(1.2)
Brother/Quality of Life	2	(2.4)
Sister/Quality of Life	1	(1.2)
Stepson/to be close to family	1	(1.2)
Friends/Retirement	1	(1.2)
<u>No</u>	68	(82.9)
Total	82	100.0

> No major reason exists for potential re-migration, although the quality of life and retirement are most often mentioned.

TABLE 57

What do you miss the most and least about living in Lincoln County?*

	Frequency
<u>Most</u>	
Scenic values	14
People	29
Lack of pollution	10
Small town life	27
Good schools	3
No Traffic	5
Family	9
Feeling of belonging	2
Climate	9
Low Crime	3
Nevada's low taxes	1
Nothing	5
Everything	2
<u>Least</u>	
No negative memories	27
Boredom	3
Small town life	9
Lack of Jobs	3
Weak economy	3
Lack of activities	10
Quality of stores/markets	13
Isolation	5
Mosquitoes	2
Influence of LDS	2
Farm life	1
Lack of medical services	4
Political system	3
Tourists	1
Lack of civic pride	3
Poor schools	1
Climate	5

* all responses are reported

- > Many of the respondents miss the quality of life afforded by a small rural community, while nearly an equal number do not miss the quality of life associated with a small town.
- > A large number have no negative memories of living in Lincoln County; nearly one-third of the past residents.

IMPRESSIONS AND PERCEIVED IMPACTS OF YUCCA MOUNTAIN

TABLE 58

Would the development of a high level nuclear waste depository at Yucca Mountain have any effect on your decisions to return to Lincoln County?

Response	Frequency	(%)
Yes, definitely	1	17 (20.7)
	2	5 (6.1)
Not sure	3	15 (18.3)
	4	3 (3.7)
No	5	40 (48.8)
No Answer/Missing		2 (2.4)
	-----	-----
Total	82	100.0

- > The proposed repository would have no impact on the decision of the majority of past residents to return to Lincoln County.
- > One fifth of the respondents are definite that the repository would have an impact on their decision

TABLE 59
If yes, in what way would it effect your decision?

Response/Comments	Frequency
Fear of health impacts	3
Memories of downwinder incidents	5
Environmental impacts	6
Would effect rural lifestyle	4
General fear of nuclear activities or nuclear repository concept	4
More economic opportunities/jobs	2

> All of the negative reactions are environmental in orientation, while the positive response suggest job potential would be a factor in their decision relative to Yucca Mountain.

TABLE 60
As a past resident of Lincoln County, did nuclear related activities (i.e. repository study or Nevada Test Site work) have any effect your decision to leave Lincoln County?

Response	Frequency	(%)
Yes	2	(2.4)
No	72	(87.8)
Discussed, but not a primary factor	6	(7.3)
No response	2	(2.4)
-----	-----	-----
Total	82	100.0

> Nuclear activities did not appear to have a major impact on out-migration decisions of past residents.

TABLE 61

In general, how informed do you feel you are about the proposed high level nuclear waste repository at Yucca Mountain?

Response	Frequency	(%)
Very well-informed	17	(20.7)
Somewhat informed	35	(42.7)
Not informed	28	(34.1)
NO Answer/missing	2	(2.4)

Total	82	100.0

> In general, past-residents feel they are informed about Yucca Mountain with only one-third indicating they are not informed at all about the proposed repository.

TABLE 62

What effects do you think development of a high level nuclear waste repository might have on these factors in Lincoln County?

		Frequency (%)*		
Very Negative	No Effect	Very Positive		
1-----	2-----	3-----	4-----	5-----

The County's Economy

3 (3.7)	3 (3.7)	20 (24.4)	34 (41.5)	9 (11.0)
---------	---------	-----------	-----------	----------

Family Incomes

1 (1.2)	3 (3.7)	25 (30.5)	33 (40.2)	7 (8.5)
---------	---------	-----------	-----------	---------

Personal health/well being of residents

14 (17.1)	17 (20.7)	31 (37.8)	3 (3.7)	1 (1.2)
-----------	-----------	-----------	---------	---------

Local Government

2 (2.4)	15 (18.3)	24 (29.3)	16 (19.5)	3 (3.7)
---------	-----------	-----------	-----------	---------

Feelings of safety and security

18 (22.0)	23 (28.0)	23 (28.0)	1 (1.2)	4 (4.9)
-----------	-----------	-----------	---------	---------

The area's lifestyle

6 (7.3)	10 (12.2)	32 (39.0)	14 (17.1)	6 (7.3)
---------	-----------	-----------	-----------	---------

> In general, there is a feeling among past residents that the development of the repository would have a positive impact on the county's economy and the incomes of residents. There is less positive feelings about the impact on the rural lifestyle and the general feelings of security and well-being of the residents.

* Missing data and no response not included.

TABLE 63

In general, would you favor the development of the repository at Yucca Mountain, if it provided economic benefits to Lincoln County?

Response	Frequency	(%)
Yes	36	(43.9)
No	22	(26.8)
Unsure	22	(26.8)
Missing/No Answer	2	(2.4)
	-----	-----
Total	82	100.0

> Past residents would tend to favor the proposed repository if Lincoln County could be provided economic benefits.

TABLE 64

In general, what level of risk would you say is associated with the development of a repository at Yucca Mountain?

Response	Frequency	(%)
Very low	1	17 (20.7)
	2	4 (4.9)
Neutral	3	17 (20.7)
	4	21 (25.6)
Very high	5	15 (18.3)
No Answer	8	(9.8)
	-----	-----
Total	82	100.0

> Overall, the perceived level of risk associated with a repository among past resident is, high evidenced by over forty percent record risk perceptions on the high end of the scale.

DEMOGRAPHICS

TABLE 65
What is your political orientation?

Orientation	Frequency (%)	
Very liberal	2	(2.4)
Liberal	10	(12.2)
Middle-of-the-road	31	(37.8)
Conservative	30	(36.6)
Very conservative	8	(9.8)
No response	1	(1.2)

Total	82	100.0

TABLE 66
If there was an election today, what party would you say you affiliate with?

Affiliation	Frequency (%)	
Democrat	36	(43.9)
Republican	31	(37.8)
Independent	10	(12.2)
Other	3	(3.7)
No response	2	(2.4)

Total	82	100.0

TABLE 67
Are you currently registered to vote?

Response	Frequency (%)	
Yes	75	(91.5)
No	7	(8.5)

Total	82	100.0

TABLE 68
What is your current religious affiliation or preference?

Affiliation	Frequency	(%)
Protestant	12	(14.6)
Catholic	6	(7.3)
LDS	48	(58.5)
Other	7	(8.5)
None	7	(8.5)
No response	2	(2.4)

Total	82	100.0

TABLE 69
What is your marital status?

Status	Frequency	(%)
Never married	2	(2.4)
Divorced	7	(8.5)
Married	64	(78.0)
Widow	8	(9.8)
No response	1	(1.2)

Total	82	100.0

TABLE 70
How many people live in your household?

Number	Frequency	(%)
1	14	(17.1)
2	33	(40.2)
3	17	(20.7)
4	7	(8.5)
5	5	(6.1)
6	4	(4.9)
No Response/missing	2	(2.4)

Total	82	(100.0)

TABLE 71
How many of these people ever lived in Lincoln County?

Number	Frequency	(%)
0	8	(9.8)
1	38	(46.3)
2	20	(24.4)
3	9	(11.0)
4	3	(3.7)
6	3	(3.7)
No response	1	(1.2)

Total	82	100.0

TABLE 72
What is your sex?

Gender	Frequency	(%)
Female	43	(52.4)
Male	36	(43.9)
No response	3	(3.7)

Total	82	100.0

TABLE 73
What is your age?

Age	Frequency	(%)
Less than 30	0	(0.0)
30 to 39	8	(9.6)
40 to 49	23	(27.6)
50 to 59	12	(14.4)
60 to 69	14	(16.8)
70 to 79	19	(22.8)
80 and over	6	(7.2)

Total	82	100.0

TABLE 74
In which category or ethnic background would you classify yourself?

Group	Frequency	(%)
Caucasian	79	(96.3)
No Answer	3	(3.7)

Total	82	100.0

TABLE 75
What is your primary occupation?

Occupation	Frequency (%)	
Professional,		
Tech/ Manag.	41	(50.0)
Clerical, sales	6	(7.3)
Service	11	(13.4)
Machining	2	(2.4)
Benchwork	1	(1.2)
Structural	2	(2.4)
Misc.	7	(8.5)
Homemaker	8	(9.8)
Retired	1	(1.2)
No Answer	3	(3.7)

Total	82	100.0

TABLE 76
What is the primary occupation of your spouse?

Occupation	Frequency (%)	
Professional\		
Tech, Manag.	24	(29.3)
Clerical, sales	4	(4.9)
Service	5	(6.1)
Machining	4	(4.9)
Benchwork	1	(1.2)
Structural	3	(3.7)
Misc.	9	(11.0)
Homemaker	9	(11.0)
Retired	2	(2.4)
No response	21	(25.6)

Total	82	100.0

TABLE 77

Are the employment opportunities available to your spouse an important factor in making decisions related to moving?

Response	Frequency	(%)
Yes	27	(32.9)
No	38	(46.3)
No Answer/NA	17	(20.3)
	-----	-----
Total	82	100.0

TABLE 78

Did you or your spouse ever work at any of the following facilities?

	Frequency (%)	
	Self	Spouse
NEVADA TEST SITE		
Yes	7 (8.5)	5 (6.1)
No	73 (89.0)	75 (91.5)
No Response	2 (2.4)	2 (2.4)
	-----	-----
Total	82 100.0	82 100.0
YUCCA MOUNTAIN PROJECT		
Yes	0 (0.0)	
No	80 (97.6)	82 (100.0)
No Response	2 (2.4)	
	-----	-----
Total	82 100.0	82 100.0
NELLIS AIR FORCE BASE		
Yes	3 (3.7)	6 (7.3)
No	77 (93.9)	74 (90.2)
No Response	2 (2.4)	2 (2.4)
	-----	-----
Total	82 100.0	82 100

TABLE 79
What is the highest level of formal education you have completed?

Level	Frequency	(%)
Less HS	4	(4.9)
HS or trade school	16	(19.5)
Some college	38	(46.3)
College grad.	9	(11.0)
Post graduate	14	(17.1)
No Response	1	(1.2)

Total	82	100.0

TABLE 80
Considering all sources, what is your family income before taxes?

	Frequency	(%)
under \$10,000	2	(2.4)
\$10,000-\$20,000	7	(8.5)
\$20,001-\$25,000	3	(3.7)
\$25,001-\$35,000	10	(12.2)
\$35,001-\$50,000	20	(24.4)
\$50,001-\$75,000	19	(23.2)
over \$75,000	10	(12.2)
No answer/missing	11	(13.4)

Total	82	100.0

SECTION VIII: HIGH SCHOOL COHORT PILOT STUDY

Among the most important, and perhaps impacted groups, with respect to the proposed Yucca Mountain Project is the current youth and children in the affected counties. Inasmuch as little or no data exists about their plans as a group, it was decided that a preliminary investigation into this segment of Lincoln County's population was worthwhile. Aiming at the cohort of high school seniors, individual migration decisions, as well as attitudes about the repository were sought within the context of a pilot study.

Four field researchers conducted an open-ended survey and follow-up focus group session with members of the 1993 graduating high school class from Lincoln County High School to determine if further investigation into the youth segment would be worthwhile. In total, 29 seniors were interviewed; including 15 males and 14 females (6 males were out of town attending a varsity basketball game). After the initial questionnaire was completed (See Appendix E), the seniors were divided by gender into a focus-group style interview in order to obtain further information. Two interviewers worked with each of the gender groups. Following the male/female group interviews, a final session with all the seniors present was conducted.

Migration Among High School Cohort

The following data provided in summary form was obtained from the session.

- > 18 seniors had college plans; 8 female, 10 male.
- > Two (1 female, 1 male) are going on LDS missions.
- > Two (1 male, 1 female) were going to technical school.
- > Two males planned on entering the work force.
- > One female planned on going into the military.
- > Two females were planning to marry.
- > Two males had no immediate plans except to leave the area for summer vacation.
- > One female, a local part-time employee, planned to stay in area for a year then seek a job elsewhere.

>>None of the students planned on remaining in Lincoln County

With the exception of two, the males were members of The Church of Latter Day Saints, while among the females only two claimed membership in the Mormon faith. This religiosity aspect was not considered an important issue among the seniors, contrary to the adult population contacted during the study. The exception was in the area of dating. It appears, that the males went to Cedar City, Utah in order to meet female members of the "church" to date.

While it seemed a sensitive subject for the females, they claimed that "they were tired of those guys anyway," especially after being in school together with them, in some cases, for up to twelve years; an attitude also shared by about a third of the males. In comparison to the community at large, the issue of the importance of the Mormon Church was less-salient among these youth cohort.

The career goals among the cohort varied. For the females they included aspirations to be:

- > a physical therapist
- > school teacher
- > psychologist
- > dietician
- > journalist
- > police officer
- > physician
- > accountant.

Only 2 of the females felt they knew where they would be in ten years. Most of the female seniors felt uncertain about the future wisely stating that "a lot can change."

As a group the females held shared conceptions and attitudes about growing-up in Lincoln County. They felt that once they left the area their career goals would not bring them back to the

county. However, they did admit that the area was a good place to raise a family. As a consequence of growing-up in Lincoln County, they felt that they had missed many opportunities and activities which are commonplace in urban areas. Specifically, they felt that:

- > the area needed to be updated, they wanted malls, convenience stores, and fast-food outlets.
- > the County leadership is not concerned with the youth and their needs.
- > the area favors retired people.
- > the area was culturally and morally restrictive.
- > the consumer goods available to them are priced too high and lower in quality than those available in urban areas and shopping malls.
- > more recreation facilities designed for their age group should be built.

On a more positive note, six females stated they would come back to live in Lincoln County if the right situation was made available to them, primarily in the form of good jobs or financial stability. Because of the high security and low crime rate in the county, issues they believed are important in making family decisions, in combination with family and friends already living in the area, as well as the high standard of education, they could envision a return to Lincoln County. Moreover, the majority

believed that as long as their families were still living in Lincoln County they would return for vacations and regular visits.

For the most part, the students were politically aware of the issues that impact their parent's lifestyle. Therefore, it was not surprising to find that on the whole they echoed the values and opinions of their parents. These young people are molded by their environment and, subsequently demonstrate political socialization patterns typical of a small rural community.

The females expresses knowledge about salient issues, such as the urban-rural water controversy in the State of Nevada, the effects of budget cuts, and local politics. They knew little about the Nevada Test Site, and overall, were not very knowledgeable about the Yucca Mountain high-level nuclear waste repository issue or its possible impacts on their community. They attributed this naivete to lack of information. They simply felt they were uninformed and consequently, did not see it as a factor in their decision to out-migrate.

The males were interested and informed about the Nevada Weapons Test Site, but expressed an interest in receiving more technical information than is presently available. Most had a general understanding of what the Yucca Mountain project was

designed to do but, primarily, they wanted to learn more about the project.

Of considerable interest, was the perception among all the seniors that they were well-prepared for the future because of the excellent education they had received in Lincoln County schools. The females, in particular, believed they had the upper-hand over the males in their ability to cope psychologically in "the real world" outside of Lincoln County. They contended that the community, the local government, the church, and their parents favored the males. They did feel they had been treated equal in the educational system, and, moreover that they had benefited more from it. They questioned the lack of equal opportunity for women, noting, for example, the greater monetary support provided for male activities such as sports. Because of this perceived inequality, the female seniors felt they were stronger and possessed the ability to take advantage of any opportunity presented to them no matter how small; an attribute not noticed in the males. They also stated they believed they would be better off than their male counterparts in ten years because the males would not work as hard to pursue goals, since they had been provided more in the past. In addition to a feeling of gender inequality, the females made resentful statements directed toward the wealthier members of the

community, which suggested a perception of class differences between the "have's" and the "have not's." With both perceived gender and class concerns, these women still felt confident that they could conquer the world and overcome the men in the process.

Among the males, the general observation was less-goal oriented and more modelling after urban roles. For example, there were suggestions of "wanna be gangs," based on place of residence in Pioche, Caliente or Panaca. However, they did view their urban counterparts as less well-rounded and less prepared to face challenges. Interest in violence, that is prevalent in urban areas was not, however, in evidence. The males appeared to be a strongly-bonded group overall, having experienced hunting, camping, sports and church ties together, and were more cohesive than the females. They were less goal-oriented overall than the females, and overall less-confident about their futures. It was noted by all of the interviewers that the males were planning on the immediate future and did not express long-term goals. It was implied that this short-term future was dictated to them by their parents and the church.

The final interview session included all the seniors. While they all agreed that the academic standards and activities provided by Lincoln High School were excellent, seven of the graduating

seniors wished they could have gone to another high school. They felt quite strongly that there was a lack of a youth oriented culture in Lincoln County and living there was like living in a "soap opera"; not an atypical small-town or rural attitude. Overall, the seniors did not have mixed emotions about leaving Lincoln County, they simply "wanted out," but when probed did admit they would miss their friends. In their separate group session, the female seniors did express a sense of remorse about leaving their families behind and felt that they were somewhat naive because they had lived a sheltered life in Lincoln County. This concern was less-apparent, almost nonexistent, among the males. Nonetheless, they all felt equally or better prepared, academically and psychologically, in relation to other 1993 high school graduates they knew in other communities.

In the political arena, they felt the Lincoln County Commissioners were "a joke" and "out of touch." They were cynical about politics, suggesting that politicians were only concerned about their own well-being and needs. Democracy, as they saw it, was non-existent for the youth of Lincoln County. Consequently, they believed the County Commissioners didn't care about their concerns since they were not members of the voting public. Because

they viewed themselves as a small, ineffective group, they felt they were unable to influence any policies.

They had a negative image of police officers and Mormon church leaders as figures of authority. They felt that the officers were bored and thus picked on them unnecessarily. In addition, they perceived "the church" as having too much authority over those who were non-church members, vis-a-vis boards, organizations, and the like.

In consideration of environmental risks, the male seniors were acutely aware of the downwind radiation risk issue surrounding the Nevada Test Site, but unlike the female seniors, they were less-aware of the Yucca Mountain high-level nuclear waste project. They agreed as a group that they did not know who to trust as a source of information about the proposed project.

Interestingly, when asked what project exhibits the most risk, the Nevada Test Site or the Yucca Mountain Project, the males perceived the Nevada Test Site as more hazardous, while the females felt the proposed Yucca Mountain Project presented a greater risk than the tests conducted at the Nevada Test Site. The risk perception held by males about the Nevada Test Site is, we believe, due to socialization with older males who know of the consequences of nuclear testing, especially the downwind effect upon humans and

nature (ie., wildlife and hunting). Put another way, they had heard stories from their fathers and grandfathers about the effects of radiation on livestock, hunting species and the like.

Both groups held the Department of Energy and Nevada state agencies responsible for not providing adequate information concerning this issue as well as for the lack of technical information concerning the Yucca Mountain project. (A strange phenomenon since this is an area that will be one of the most effected if a site is to be constructed.) In addition, they also felt they were ignored and uninformed by the U.S. Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, and the State of Nevada, in general. Overall, they felt disenfranchised and that they were not allowed, nor given any options, in regards to matters or policy pertaining to these federal agencies and the state of Nevada.

Theory Applications

The data retrieved from the Lincoln County High School Seniors reflects the five general categories of micro-study focus, namely, human capital; knowledge and uncertainty; consumption; labor factors; and, strategic behavior. Education, as one of the variables of the human capital category, is seemingly paralleled to

an individual's migration decision in the case of the Lincoln County High School seniors. In securing a higher education level, the seniors felt they had to leave their homes in Lincoln County because they are not offered any higher educational opportunities than those provided at the high school level. Subsequently, it is noted that those with higher education are less likely to return because of the lack of economic opportunities. Seeking a college degree, possibilities for greater financial stability, lack of close community ties and boredom all contributed more to the decision to leave Lincoln County than local environmental issue factors. It is apparent that knowledge or non-knowledge of the Yucca Mountain Project was not a factor in their out-migration. It can also be noted that the 1993 seniors are following their predecessors who have benefitted from out-migration. However, the bonds of family and friends of these small communities remain a drawing card for the seniors if financial and/or economic opportunities were to become available in Lincoln County.

The knowledge and uncertainty variable seems to be overshadowed by the 1993 seniors' perception of a more secure future outside their respective communities. Knowledge of other locales as being a more preferable place to live, combined with more job opportunities, resulted in reduced uncertainty. This information is

primarily learned through previous Lincoln County High School graduates, their family and friends.

The consumption category is demonstrated in their general dissatisfaction with the non-availability of desired consumer goods and services and, in conjunction, the subsequent lack of leisure facilities. The performance of their local economy does not satisfy the desires of the high school senior cohort. Thus, because of their demands as consumers, this population will move to a new location that promises to provide a more attractive set of benefits in the form of goods and services. In contrast, however, the intrinsic or physic goods such as low crime rates and family relationships are mentioned by the seniors as being an aspect attached to their locale; facets of a lifestyle which can only be obtained in that area.

Labor factors are a primary factor in decisions to out-migrate. All of the seniors interviewed planned on leaving their communities to seek employment opportunities which are not locally available. Many of the seniors did state, however, that they would return to their respective communities if good employment prospects were to become available.

Collective action that may encompass the entire family and weighing the risks of living in one region over another are

components of the strategic behavior category. The decision to leave Lincoln County to insure a higher stream of benefits in the future, is taking a degree of risk, but in doing so may incorporate benefits for the entire family. This notion of thought expands the costs to the entire family with the anticipation that benefits, in time, will be equally distributed among all family members. For the seniors the risk or non-risk associated with the proposed Yucca Mountain Nuclear Waste Project does not seem to be a factor in their decisions to out-migrate Lincoln County.

Synopsis

The 1993 seniors of Lincoln County High School have a love-hate relationship with their home county. They love the security, family and friends but hate the conception that there is nothing to do, as well as few employment opportunities. Further, they see a lack of recreational facilities and complained about their non-recognition from federal, state, and local governments. In conjunction with other factors, the females contend that the school focuses on the male students. They agreed that the school provides a good education and offers activities through various clubs for everyone. Politically, they felt ignored and that the "old folks" dominated, thus the local government alienated them.

The seniors have an acute sense of what is going on around them locally, but statewide and nationally, issues that affect their area are not so well-understood. They seem to take the same stance for or against these issues as their respective parents' position; perhaps because they feel uninformed and, therefore do not have enough information to make a decision on these issues.

SECTION IX: SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The purpose of this project has been to develop insight into the population base of Lincoln County. Historical and contemporary migration patterns were investigated with consideration given to the impact the proposed high-level nuclear on migration decisions. The findings from this study suggest that:

- Overall, the current satisfaction levels among residents of Lincoln County indicate little potential out-migration.
- The proposed high-level nuclear waste repository is not seen as having a negative impact on migration decisions among Lincoln County residents.
- The historical boom-and-bust cycle in Lincoln County is likely to effect future migration decisions.
- Community leaders see the proposed repository has having the capability to enhance the relatively weak economy of Lincoln County.
- The political and social setting is very stable with conservative tendencies and a strong individualistic political culture.
- The youth segment of the population would appear to be the most dissatisfied and feels disenfranchised from the political process in Lincoln County.

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APPENDIX A

Key Informant Interview Instrument: Lincoln County, Nevada.

**Lincoln County
Face-To-Face Interview**

1. What is your age? _____
2. Occupation? _____
3. How long have you lived in Lincoln County? _____
4. In general, How do you feel about living in Nye County?

5. How would you describe the economy in Lincoln County?

6. How would you describe quality of government?

7. How would you describe community relationships? (groups, schisms, etc.)

8. What do you know about Yucca Mountain? How would you rate your knowledge of this topic on a scale of 1 to 7?
1 not informed; 4 somewhat informed; and 7 very well informed?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8-DK

Comments:

9. Where have you received information about this subject?

- Y - N a. from friends, neighbors, or relatives
- Y - N b. from newspapers
- Y - N c. radio
- Y - N d. television news and specials
- Y - N e. attending public meetings
- Y - N f. attending meetings of environmental groups
- Y - N g. mailings received at your home, place of work, church
- Y - N h. literature distributed by groups or organizations
- Y - N i. attending classes, lectures, or public forums

10. What do you think should be done about Yucca Mountain?

11. What risks or benefits are associated with Yucca Mountain?

12. Overall, do you think the Yucca Mountain Project will have a positive or negative effect?

13. What is your political party reference?

14. Where would you place yourself on a scale of political outlook on a scale of 1 to 7?

1 very liberal; 4 middle of the road; and 7 very conservative.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

15. Are you registered to vote? _____ yes _____ no

16. On economic issues do you consider yourself...1-liberal, 2-moderate, 3-conservative, or 8-do you have no preference?

17. On social issues do you consider yourself...1-liberal, 2-moderate, 3 conservative, or 8-do you have no preference?

18. Are you... 1-married, 2-single, never married, 3-divorced or separated, or 4-widowed.

19. How many people currently live in your household? _____

- a. How many of these are children under 18? _____
- b. How many of these children attend the following schools?
 1. Preschool _____
 2. Elementary School _____
 3. High School _____
 4. College _____

20. What is the highest level of formal education you have completed? (read as required)

1. less than high school graduate
2. high school graduate/trade school graduate
3. some college attended
4. four year college graduate
5. post graduate or professional study
8. DON'T KNOW
9. REFUSED

Thank the informant and ask if you can follow up on the information collected at a later date.

HOW INFORMED WAS THE RESPONDENT?

1. VERY WELL INFORMED	2. SOMEWHAT INFORMED
3. NOT INFORMED	4. DON'T KNOW/COULDNT TELL

RECORD DATE: _____ TIME: _____

APPENDIX B

**Key Informant Interview List:
Lincoln County, Nevada.**

Key Informant Interview List:
Lincoln County, Nevada.

William Austin, Rachel NV, June 23, 1993, Department of Energy, truck-driver.

Carla Christensen, Caliente, NV, April 30, 1993, bartender.

Eve Culverwell, Caliente, NV, April 15, 1993, office manager at elementary school in Caliente and 1st term county commissioner.

Carma Eizman, Caliente, NV, April 16, 1993, business owner.

George Eizman, Caliente, NV, April 16, 1993, business owner-former city councilman, has held various county offices.

Mike Giddings, Caliente, NV, April 16, 1993, bartender, book-keeper.

Walter Giddings, Caliente, NV, April 16, 1993, business owner, former airport manager, county inspector, Department of Defense retiree.

Steven Klomp, Panaca, NV, April 16, 1993, Dentist, LDS leader, bank director.

Dan Lindenberg, Pioche, NV, April 15, 1993, deputy sheriff.

Paul Long, Caliente, NV, April 30, 1993, business owner, carpenter.

Dean Mosser, Caliente, NV, April 17, 1993, business owner--Panaca, President of Chamber of Commerce in Caliente.

Ted Olson, Caliente, NV, April 15, 1993, business owner, former city councilman, former county commissioner, former Pres. Chamber of Commerce & Rotary, various offices county.

Linda Opielowski, Pioche, NV, March 19, 1993, accountant, bartender, part-time secretary.

Gerry Patton, Pioche, NV, March 19, 1993, business owner, accountant.

Joseph H. Travis, Rachel, NV, June 23, 1993, business owner.

Dean Wiedermann, Caliente, NV, April 30, 1993, retired policeman.

Ed Wright, Pioche, NV, April 16, 1993, rancher, business owner, county commissioner, resides in Castleton.

Melinda Wright (Tillie), Pioche, NV, April 16, 1993, business owner.

APPENDIX C
Telephone Survey Instrument

LINCOLN COUNTY HOUSEHOLD SURVEY

SOUTHWESTERN SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH CENTER

Hello, this is _____ calling from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. We are asking adult residents of Lincoln County about their everyday experiences with living in the county. The interview will take approximately 25 minutes and your answers will be held in the strictest confidence. Could you please help us?

If YES: We need to interview someone who is 18 years old or over; would that be you?

If NO: Is there someone else at home who is 18 years old or older who could talk to us? IF NO, TERMINATE POLITELY.

(1) While we're on the subject, what is your age? RECORD _____

(2) In general, how do you feel about living in Lincoln County? Are you... 1-very satisfied, 2-somewhat satisfied, 3-or are you not very satisfied at all?

(3) Were you born in Lincoln County or did you move here later?

1-BORN THERE 2-MOVED IN (NEXT QUESTION)

IF 2-MOVED: What year did you first move here?

RECORD _____ NOTE: FILL IN 1993 MINUS AGE FOR
THOSE BORN IN LINCOLN COUNTY

Why did you move to Lincoln County? IF AS CHILD MARK 00

(4) Have you lived in Lincoln County on a continuous basis since you were (born here/arrived here first) or have you lived somewhere else and then returned?

1-CONTINUOUS (NEXT QUESTION) 2-RETURNED (GO TO Q. 5)

IF CONTINUOUS: During the time you have lived in Lincoln County as an adult, how often have you thought of moving out of the county? Was it...READ

1-frequently 2-sometimes 3-rarely 4-never (TO **)

IF ANY SUCH THOUGHT:

How serious were you about leaving? Were you...READ

1-very serious 2-somewhat serious

3-not very serious at all 8-DK

If you had decided to move away from Lincoln County, where would you have most likely moved to? RECORD CITY OR NEVADA COUNTY

PLACE: _____

What would have been the major reason for the move?

REASON: _____

If the move had taken place, would it have been only yourself or would it have included other members of your family?

1-YOU 2-OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS

SKIP NEXT BLOCK TO Q. 6

(5) IF Q4, 2-IN AND OUT: Thinking of the (most recent/next most recent) move from Lincoln County...READ ONE AT A TIME FOR EACH TWO WAY MOVE...RECORD INFORMATION FOR EACH MOVE:

where did you move to?

what year did you leave?

what was the major reason for the move?

did you move alone or did you move with other members of your family?

what year did you come back?

why did you come back?

A-MOST RECENT PLACE: _____

YEAR MOVED OUT: _____

REASON MOVED: _____

1-ALONE 2-OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS

YEAR RETURNED: _____

REASON RETURNED: _____

B-NEXT MOST RECENT: _____

YEAR MOVED OUT: _____

REASON MOVED: _____

1-ALONE 2-OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS

YEAR RETURNED: _____

REASON RETURNED: _____

C-NEXT MOST RECENT: _____

YEAR MOVED OUT: _____

REASON MOVED: _____

1-ALONE 2-OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS

YEAR RETURNED: _____

REASON RETURNED: _____

(6) At the present time are there any members of your household including yourself who may be planning to move out of Lincoln County for whatever reasons?

1-YES 2-POSSIBLY (1-2: NEXT Q) 3-NO 8-DK

IF 1- OR 2- :

Would this likely involve all the members of your household, just some of you, or is it one person only?

1-ONE OR SOME (GO TO Q 7) 2-ALL (ASK A TO E, THEN SKIP)

A-Where would your household likely move to?

FIRST CHOICE: _____

SECOND CHOICE: _____ 0-INAPPL

THIRD CHOICE: _____ 0-INAPPL

B-How soon would you likely leave? Would it be...READ

1-in the next six months 2-within a year

3-over one year from now 8-UNSURE

C-What would be the major reason for the move? RECORD

D-Are there any circumstances that would bring your household back to live in Lincoln County? RECORD AS MANY AS OFFERED

E-In particular, if the Yucca Mountain High Level Nuclear Waste Repository should be approved and started, what kind of effect would this have, one way or the other, on your decision to become a resident of Lincoln County again? Would it have.. .

- 1-a strong positive effect
- 2-a positive effect
- 3-a negative effect
- 4-a strong negative effect
- 5-or would it have no effect at all?

8-DK

GO TO Q 8

IF ONLY PART OF HOUSEHOLD LIKELY TO MIGRATE

(7) FOR FIRST OF TWO (2) PERSONS MENTIONED (PRIORITY FOR YOUNGER AGES AS LOW AS 18):

A-How old is this person? _____

B-Is this person 1-male or 2-female? RECORD

C-How likely will this person leave? Is it...READ

1-very likely 2-somewhat likely

3-not very likely but possible 8-DK

D-How soon would (he/she) likely leave? Would it be...READ

1-in the next six months 2-within a year

3-over one year from now 8-UNSURE

E-Where will this person likely move to? _____

F-What would be the major reason for the move? RECORD

G-Are there any circumstances that would bring this person back to live in Lincoln County? RECORD AS MANY AS OFFERED

H-In particular, if the Yucca Mountain High Level Nuclear Waste Project should be approved and started, what kind of effect would this have, one way or the other, on this person's decision to become a resident of Lincoln County again? Would it have...READ

- 1-a strong positive effect
- 2-a positive effect
- 3-a negative effect
- 4-a strong negative effect
- 5-or would it have no effect at all?

8-DK

FOR SECOND OF TWO (2) PERSONS MENTIONED (PRIORITY FOR YOUNGER AGES AS LOW AS 18):

A-How old is this person? _____

B-Is this person 1-male or 2-female? RECORD

C-How likely will this person leave? Is it...READ

- 1-very likely
- 2-somewhat likely

3-not very likely but possible 8-DK

D-How soon would (he/she) likely leave? Would it be...READ

- 1-in the next six months
- 2-within a year

3-over one year from now 8-UNSURE

E-Where will this person likely move to? _____

F-What would be the major reason for the move? RECORD

G-Are there any circumstances that would bring this person back to live in Lincoln County? RECORD AS MANY AS OFFERED

H-In particular, if the Yucca Mountain High Level Nuclear Waste Project should be approved and started, what kind of effect would this have, one way or the other, on this person's decision to become a resident of Lincoln County again? Would it have...READ

- 1-a strong positive effect
- 2-a positive effect
- 3-a negative effect
- 4-a strong negative effect
- 5-or would it have no effect at all?

8-DK

(8)Now to a different topic. How informed are you about the proposed Yucca Mountain high-level nuclear storage issue, on a scale of 1 to 7 with 1 not informed at all, 4 somewhat informed, and 7 very well-informed? Pick any number between 1 and 7. CIRCLE

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8-DK

(9) How much have you learned about high-level nuclear waste storage from READ FIRST ITEM? Is it nothing(1), a little(2), some(3), or a great deal(4)? READ EACH ITEM REPEATING CHOICES AS NECESSARY

- A. from friends, neighbors, or relatives
- B. from newspapers
- C. radio news and specials
- D. television news and specials
- E. attending public meetings
- F. attending meetings of environmental groups
- G. mailings received at your home, place of work, church, etc.
- H. literature distributed by groups or organizations
- I. attending classes, lectures, or public forums

(10) How much trust would you say you have in technical information about high-level nuclear waste provided by READ FIRST ITEM? Is it none(1), not much(2), some(3), a great deal(4), or do you have no opinion(8)? READ EACH ITEM + ANSWERS AS REQUIRED

- A. private industry
- B. environmental groups
- C. college or university educators
- D. Department of Energy spokesmen
- E. other Federal agency spokesmen
- F. peace activists
- G. public utility spokesmen
- H. the Governor's office
- I. State of Nevada Nuclear Waste Project Office
- J. other state agencies
- K. local governments
- L. technical/scientific spokesmen for the State
- M. technical/scientific spokesmen for the Federal Government

(11) I'm going to read three statements about nuclear waste storage. After each please indicate your opinion with 1 being strongly disagree, 4 being uncertain, and 7 being strongly agree. READ FIRST ITEM Pick any number from 1 to 7. REPEAT NUMBER SYSTEM AS REQUIRED

A-The State of Nevada should do everything in its power to stop the Federal government from locating a high-level nuclear waste storage facility in Nevada.

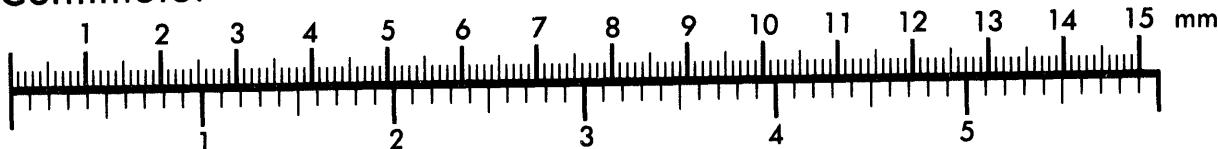


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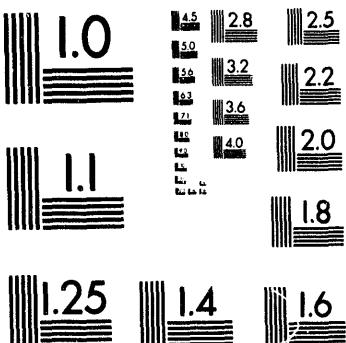
Association for Information and Image Management

1100 Wayne Avenue, Suite 1100
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910
301/587-8202

Centimeter



Inches



MANUFACTURED TO AIIM STANDARDS
BY APPLIED IMAGE, INC.

3 of 3

B-The State of Nevada should get as much as it can from the Federal government in exchange for accepting and storing the nation's high-level nuclear waste.

C-Nevada should charge other states as much as possible in return for accepting and storing their nuclear waste.

(12)With regard to the storage of high-level nuclear waste at Yucca Mountain, have you ever...(1-YES; 2-NO)

- A. attended a public hearing?
- B. contacted a state or federal agency?
- C. contacted a U.S. Senator or Representative?
- D. contacted a state senator or assembly member?
- E. contacted your county Nuclear Waste Project Office?
- F. joined a political or environmental interest group?
- G. signed a petition or initiative on nuclear issues?

(13)Again on a scale from 1 to 7 with 1 being a low degree of risk, 4 being uncertain, and 7 being high degree of risk, please indicate how much risk you think there is that READ FIRST ITEM if the high-level nuclear waste repository is located at Yucca Mountain.

- A. tourists will avoid coming to Nevada
- B. serious accidents will occur while nuclear waste is transported
- C. waste contamination of underground water supplies will occur
- D. site workers and surrounding communities will be subjected to accidents
- E. wildlife and the ecosystem will be threatened
- F. new jobs will not be created in Nevada

(14)Again using the 1 to 7 scale -- this time with 1 being very negative, 4 being no effect, and 7 being very positive -- what effect do you think the Yucca Mountain nuclear waste repository might have on your READ ITEMS

- A. community's economy
- B. family's or household's income
- C. personal health and well-being
- D. county's government
- E. feelings of safety and security
- F. area's lifestyle

(15) Overall what do you think the impact of the Yucca Mountain High Level Nuclear Waste facility might be; 1-very negative, 4-neutral, no effect, or 7-very positive? RECORD

(16) Have you or any member of your household ever worked... (1-YES; 2-NO/YEAR) READ

at the Nevada Test Site? (FROM YEAR(1) TO YEAR(2))

at the Yucca Mountain Project? (SAME)

IF YES TO EITHER:

Did (you/this person) commute daily or did they stay over for one or more nights? 1-DAILY 2-OVERNIGHT(S)

What transportation did (you/they) usually take? Was it...READ

1-private vehicle (how many rode _____?)

2-bus 3-airplane 4-OTHER _____

for the United States Department of Energy? (YEAR1/YEAR2)

for any Nevada government agency? (YEAR1/YEAR2)

for any Federal government agency? (YEAR1/YEAR2)

(17) Turning to your views of current events and issues, there is a lot of talk about what our nation's goals should be in the next ten or fifteen years. I will read a series of preferences for some types of public policy over others. Please tell me the number on our seven-point scale which most accurately describes how you feel.

A-If protecting the environment would lead to higher levels of unemployment, which do you think is more important? On a scale of 1 to 7 with 1 being job protection, 4 being undecided, and 7 being environment protection?

B-Do you feel each adult should 1-get ahead on his or her own, or 7-the government provide jobs, with 4-undecided?

C-If small local businesses were allowed to operate without government interference, do you feel that 1-workers get less, 4-they get about the same, or 7-do they get more?

D-And what about large national and international corporations? If they were allowed to operate without government interference, do you feel that 1-workers get less, 4-they get about the same, or 7-do they get more?

E-Do you think the best hope for the future of America lies in 1-science and technology or 7-faith in a supreme being, with 4-being undecided.

(18)Thinking of political orientation, where would you place yourself on a scale of political outlook where 1-is very liberal, 4-is middle-of-the-road and 7-is very conservative?

(19)What is your political party preference? Is it 1-Republican, 2-Democrat, 3-Libertarian, 4-Independent, no party preference, or 5-do you have some other preference?

(20)Are you currently registered to vote? 1-YES 2-NOT SURE 3-NO

(21)Did you vote in the last general election, the Presidential election in November? 1YES 2-NO 9-REF

(22)What is your current religious affiliation or preference? Is it...1-Protestant, 2-Catholic, 3-LDS (Mormon), 4-Jewish, 5-do you have some other preference, or 6-do you have no preference? 9-REF

(23)How important are religious beliefs in your everyday life? One (1) is very important, seven (7) is not at all important, and four (4) is average importance.

(24)About how often do you attend religious services of any kind? Is it...1-more than weekly, 2-about once a week, 3-more than monthly, 4-about once a month, 5-a few times a year, 6-hardly ever or never.

(25) Other than religious services, how often do you attend meetings or get-togethers of religiously-oriented clubs or organizations? Is it...1-more than weekly, 2-about once a week, 3-more than monthly, 4-about once a month, 5-a few times a year, 6-hardly ever or never.

(26) Where in Lincoln or nearby counties (INCLUDING UTAH) do you usually attend religious services or maintain your religious affiliation? GET NAME OF CHURCH OR SYNAGOGUE AND EXACT LOCATION.

NAME: _____

LOCATION: _____

(27) About how often do you attend meetings or get-togethers of clubs or organizations other than religiously-oriented? Is it...1-more than weekly, 2-about once a week, 3-more than monthly, 4-about once a month, 5-a few times a year, 6-hardly ever or never (IF 6: GO TO Q. 28).

IF 1 THRU 5 (ANY PARTICIPATION) ON Q 27:

A. What is the name of the organization which you attend most often?

RECORD _____

B. And what is the name of the organization which you attend next most often?

RECORD _____

(28) How important are clubs and organizations of this kind in your everyday life? One (1) is very important, seven (7) is not at all important, and four (4) is average importance.

Finally, a few background questions for statistical purposes. This information will be strictly confidential.

(29) On economic issues do you consider yourself...1-liberal, 2-moderate, 3-conservative, or 8-do you have no preference?

(30) On social issues do you consider yourself...1-liberal, 2-moderate, 3-conservative, or 8-do you have no preference?

(31) Are you...1-married, 2-single, never married, 3-divorced or separated, or 4-widowed 9-REF

(32) How many people currently live in your household? RECORD _____

A-And how many of these are children under 18? RECORD
_____ (IF NONE, SKIP TO Q. 33)

B-How many of these children attend the following schools?
READ AND RECORD FOR EACH

- A. Preschool _____
- B. Elementary school _____
- C. High school _____
- D. College _____

(33) In which category of race or ethnic background would you classify yourself? (READ CATEGORIES ONLY IF NECESSARY)

- 1-Caucasian/White
- 2-Spanish, Hispanic or Mexican American
- 3-Indian or Native American
- 4-Black or African American
- 5-Asian American and Pacific Islander
- 6-Other
- 8-DON'T KNOW
- 9-REFUSED

(34) What is your primary occupation? (00 IF UNEMPLOYED; 97 IF HOMEMAKER)

Do you have another occupation from which you receive an important part of your income each year? SPECIFY

IF LIVES WITH OTHER ADULT(S): What is your spouse's/other's primary occupation?

Does your spouse/other have another occupation from which he or she receives an important part of their income each year?
SPECIFY

(35) What is the highest level of formal education you have completed? (READ AS REQUIRED)

- 1-Less than high school graduate
- 2-High school graduate/trade school graduate
- 3-Some college attended
- 4-Four year college graduate
- 5-Post graduate or professional study
- 8-DON'T KNOW
- 9-REFUSED

(36) Considering all sources, which of the following best describes the yearly income of your household before Federal taxes are taken out? READ AND RECORD

- 1-Under \$10,000
- 2-\$10,000 - \$15,000
- 3-\$15,000 - \$25,000
- 4-\$25,000 - \$35,000
- 5-\$35,000 - \$50,000
- 6-\$50,000 - \$75,000
- 7-Over \$75,000
- 8-DON'T KNOW
- 9-REFUSED

Those are all our questions! Thank you very much!

INTERVIEWER:

HOW INFORMED WAS THE RESPONDENT?

- 1 - VERY WELL INFORMED
- 2 - SOMEWHAT INFORMED
- 3 - NOT INFORMED
- 8 - DON'T KNOW/COULDN'T TELL

RECORD GENDER

1 - MALE

2 - FEMALE

RECORD TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

RECORD DATE: _____ TIME: _____ YOUR INITIALS: _____

Appendix D
Past Residents Survey

**SOUTHWESTERN SOCIAL SCIENCE
RESEARCH CENTER
University of Nevada, Las Vegas**

Lincoln County Migration Study

Dear Survey Respondent:

We are conducting a study on the impact of large-scale public works projects on rural communities in Nevada. As a past resident of Lincoln County, we are especially interested in the reasons you moved out of the area and under what conditions you might consider moving back to Lincoln County.

We have enclosed a survey which we hope you will be able to complete for us. Your participation in this survey is completely VOLUNTARY; however, in order to gather a fair impression of why various individuals have left Lincoln County, it is important that as many people as possible respond to the survey. All responses to the survey are completely confidential. We also have provided a postage pre-paid return envelope for your use. If you are interested in receiving a copy of the results, please enclose your name and address on a separate sheet of paper or business card with "Copy of Results" written on it. If you have any questions please feel free to call us.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Dennis L. Soden, Ph.D.
Co-Director

4505 Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV. 89154-4030
(702) 895-4833

**LINCOLN COUNTY
FORMER RESIDENTS SURVEY**
**Southwestern Social Science
Research Center**
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

This survey is part of a larger study investigating rural migration in Nevada, and the impact that large-scale public works projects may have on both in-migration and out-migration. We are especially interested in the migration patterns and decisions to migrate among former residents of rural areas, such as yourself. Please circle the most appropriate response to the questions, and feel free to comment at the end of the survey or in the margins if you feel clarification is needed.

Q1. In general, how did you feel about living in Lincoln County? (Circle the number of your answer.)

1-----	2-----	3-----	4-----	5-----
Very		Neutral		Not Very
Satisfied				Satisfied

Q2. Were you born in Lincoln County or did you move there?
(Circle the number of your answer.)

1. Born in Lincoln County (Parents resided in Lincoln County).
2. Moved to Lincoln County as a child.
3. Moved to Lincoln County as an adult.

Q3. At what age did you first move out of Lincoln County?

(Write in age.)

Q4. What was the reason you moved from Lincoln County at that time?

Q5. Did you return to Lincoln County after this initial move? (Circle your answer.)

1. Yes 2. No

If Yes, how many times have you moved from Lincoln County and returned? _____

What were the reasons for these moves?

Q6. For each move, where did you move to?

Q7. Would you be interested in moving back to Lincoln County? (Circle the number of your answer.)

1. Yes 2. Maybe 3. No

Q8. What would be needed for you to move back to Lincoln County? (Be as specific as possible).

Q9. At the present time, or sometime in the future, is anyone in your family considering moving back to Lincoln County? (Circle the number of your answer.)

1. Yes 2. No

If yes, who is it and why do you think they are interested in moving back.

Q10. What do you miss most about living in Lincoln County?

Q11. What do you miss the least?

—
—
—
—
—

In this next section, we are going to ask you some questions relating to the proposed high-level nuclear waste repository at Yucca Mountain and what you feel are its possible impacts on Lincoln County.

Q12. Would the development of a high-level nuclear waste repository at Yucca Mountain have any effect on your decisions to return to Lincoln County? (Circle the number of your response.)

If yes, in what way would it affect your decision?

Q13. As a past resident of Lincoln County, did nuclear-related activities (ie., repository study or Nevada test site work) have any affect on your decision to leave Lincoln County? (Circle the number of your response.)

1. Yes, a strong affect.
2. No, no affect on my decision.
3. Was discussed, but was not a primary factor in the decision to move out of Lincoln County.
(Elaborate if possible.)

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Q14. In general, how informed do you feel you are about the proposed high-level nuclear waste repository at Yucca Mountain? (Circle the number of your response.)

1. Very well-informed.
2. Somewhat informed.
3. Not informed.

Q15. What effects do you think development of a high-level nuclear waste repository might have on these factors in Lincoln County? (Circle the number of your answer, or circle nothing if you have no response.)

	Very Negative Effect	No Effect	Very Positive Effect
The County's economy	1	2	3
Family incomes	1	2	3
Personal health/ well-being of residents	1	2	3
Local government	1	2	3
Feelings of safety and security	1	2	3
The area's lifestyle	1	2	3

Q16. In general, would you favor the development of the repository at Yucca Mountain if it provided economic benefits to Lincoln County? (Circle the number of your response).

1. Yes, I would tend to favor the project.
2. No, I would not favor the proposed project.
3. Unsure

Q17. In general, what level of risk would you say is associated with the development of a repository at Yucca Mountain? (Circle the number of your response).

In this last section we are interested in some information about yourself which will help in the statistical analysis of this study.

Q17. Thinking of your political orientation, would you say you are:

1. Very Liberal
2. Liberal
3. Middle-of-the-road
4. Conservative
5. Very conservative

Q18. If there were an election today, what party would you say you affiliate with:

1. Democrat
2. Republican
3. Libertarian
4. Independent, no party preference.
5. Other _____

Q19. Are you currently registered to vote?

1. Yes
2. No

Q20. What is your current religious affiliation or preference?

1. Protestant
2. Catholic
3. Latter-Day Saint
4. Jewish
5. Other _____
6. No preference or affiliation

Q21. What is your marital status?

1. Single, never married.
2. Single, divorced
3. Married
4. Widow

Q22. How many people live in your household? _____

Q23. How many of these family members ever lived in Lincoln County? _____

Q24. What is your sex? 1. female 2. male

Q25. What is your age? _____

Q26. In which category or ethnic background would you classify yourself?

1. Caucasian/white
2. Spanish, Hispanic or Mexican American
3. Indian or Native American
4. African American
5. Asian American or Pacific Islander
6. other

Q27. What is your primary occupation? (Previous occupation if retired)

Q28. What is the primary occupation of your spouse, if applicable.

Q29. Are the employment opportunities available to your spouse an important factor in making decisions related to moving? (Circle the number of your answer.)

1. Yes
2. No
3. Not applicable/No spouse

Q30. Did you or your spouse ever work at any of the following facilities? (Circle the number of your answer and check appropriate space).

	Self	Spouse
1. Nevada Test Site.	___	___
2. Yucca Mountain Project.	___	___
3. Nellis Air Force Base or its fields.	___	___

Q31. What is the highest level of formal education you have completed? (Circle the number of your answer.)

1. Less than high school graduate.
2. High school graduate or trade school graduate.
3. Some college attended.
4. Four year college graduate.
5. Post graduate or professional degree.

**Q32. Considering all sources, what is your family income,
before taxes?**

1. Under \$10,000
2. \$10,001- 20,000
3. \$20,001- 25,000
4. \$25,001- 35,000
5. \$35,001- 50,000
6. \$50,001- 75,000
7. Over \$75,000

**Q33. If you can think of someone else who has moved out of
Lincoln County, including friends and relatives, who
might be willing to participate in this study, we would
appreciate receiving their names and addresses.**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO COMMENT
IF YOU HAVE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION YOU BELIEVE MIGHT
ASSIS
T US IN OUR STUDY.**

APPENDIX E
High School Cohort Pilot Study Instrument

30 April 1993

LINCOLN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

Name _____

Age _____

What are your immediate plans after graduation.

Does this involve leaving Lincoln County

Yes No

If leaving, where will you be going?

How soon after graduation? _____

Why?

Does this relate to career goals? _____

Do you plan on returning to Lincoln County?

Yes No

Why?

What would bring you back to Lincoln County?

Do you think the Yucca Mountain Project might provide incentives to bring you back to Lincoln County? (ie., jobs, stability)

In general, would you rate Lincoln County as a good place to grow up?

Would you consider it a good place to raise your own family at some point in time?

What ties do you have to the community other than family?

Are you going to miss living here? _____
Why? or Why not?

**DATE
FILMED**

6/15/94

END

