Data for Decision Makers



Merrill, Iowa **City Profile**

report created: 12/17/2024

Population profile

The 2020 population for Merrill is 717. Between 2010 and 2020 the population decreased by 5.0%. The City of Merrill is in Plymouth County. Plymouth County saw a 2.8% population increase between 2010 and 2020.

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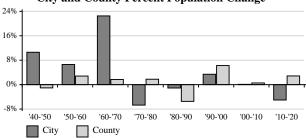
Plymouth Co	unty Cities - Tot	tal Population	
City	2000	2010	2020
Merrill	754	755	717
Male Total	401	394	366
Female Total	353	361	351
Akron	1,489	1,486	1,558
Brunsville	146	151	129
Craig	102	89	79
Hinton	808	928	935
Kingsley	1,245	1,411	1,396
Le Mars	9,237	9,826	10,571
Oyens	132	103	92
Remsen	1,762	1,663	1,678
Sioux City [†]	85,013	82,684	85,797
Struble	85	78	67
Westfield	189	132	123
Plymouth County Total	24,849	24,986	25,698
State of Iowa Total	2,926,324	3,046,355	3,190,369

[†]City is located in multiple counties, total population is provided.

Neighboring Cities - Percent Population Change

	'90-'00	'00-'10	'10-'20
Brunsville	6.6%	3.4%	-14.6%
Hinton	15.9%	14.9%	0.8%
Le Mars	9.3%	6.4%	7.6%
Oyens	16.8%	-22.0%	-10.7%
Struble	26.9%	-8.2%	-14.1%
Merrill	3.4%	0.1%	-5.0%
Plymouth County	6.2%	0.6%	2.8%
State of Iowa	5.4%	4.1%	4.7%

City and County Percent Population Change¹



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Extension and Outreach Community and Economic Development Merrill's population is predominantly White. The City of Merrill, compared to Plymouth County, had a lower percentage of young people (17 or younger) and a equal percentage of older people (65 and older) in 2020. New household relationship categories were reported for 2020 that are not comparable with 2010.³

Percentage of Population by Race/Hispanic Origin¹

	City		Co	unty
Race Groups	2010	2020	2010	2020
One race only	99.1%	97.2%	99.0%	95.8%
White	97.9%	90.9%	96.4%	90.6%
White alone, not Hispanic	97.2%	90.0%	95.2%	89.3%
Black or African American	0.0%	1.3%	0.3%	1.4%
Asian	0.5%	0.4%	0.5%	0.5%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.7%	0.4%	0.3%	0.3%
Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.8%	0.1%	0.5%
Other	0.0%	2.4%	1.5%	2.6%
Two or more races	0.9%	2.8%	1.0%	4.2%
Hispanic origin ^a	0.9%	3.2%	3.0%	5.8%

^a Hispanics can be of any race.

Households by Family or Nonfamily Type^{1,3}

	-		_		
	C	City	Co	County	
	2010	2020	2010	2020	
Total households	304	293	9,875	10,171	
Family households ^{a,b}	69.7%	86.7%	70.4%	69.3%	
Married couple family ^b	55.6%	75.6%	59.7%	56.4%	
With own children	25.3%	19.1%	23.8%	21.1%	
Other family ^c	14.1%	13.7%	10.7%	12.9%	
Male householder ^c	3.9%	4.8%	4.1%	5.1%	
With own children	2.6%	2.7%	2.6%	2.8%	
Female householder ^c	10.2%	8.9%	6.6%	7.8%	
With own children	5.6%	3.4%	4.3%	4.8%	
Nonfamily households ^d	30.3%	13.3%	29.6%	30.7%	
Male living alone	14.5%	15.0%	11.5%	12.7%	
Female living alone	13.5%	16.7%	14.3%	13.6%	

Households by Couple or Non-couple Type^{1,3}

		City		ounty
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total households	304	293	9,875	10,171
Married couple ^b	55.6%	75.6%	59.7%	56.4%
Cohabiting couple ^{b,f}	NA ^e	6.1%	NA ^e	5.8%
Male householder g	NA^e	18.8%	NA^e	17.4%
Female householder ^g	NA ^e	25.3%	NA ^e	20.3%

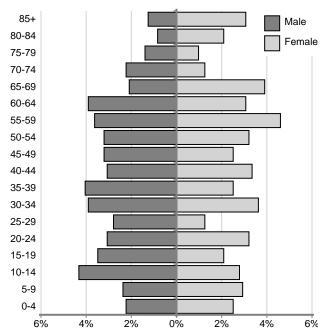
^aHouseholder and at least one other person related to the householder. ^bFor 2020 includes same-sex couples. ^cNo spouse present, but at least one relative present. ^dIn 2010 included same-sex couples whether married or not (if no relatives present). ^e2010 not comparable with 2020. ^fFor 2020 householder has an unmarried partner. ^gFor 2020 no spouse or partner present, but relatives, nonrelatives may be present or householder may be living alone.

Percentage of Population by Age¹

	(City	Co	ounty
Age Groups	2010	2020	2010	2020
17 or younger	26.1%	20.9%	26.0%	25.2%
0 - 4	7.5%	4.7%	6.6%	6.0%
5 - 9	5.8%	5.3%	6.9%	7.0%
10 - 14	6.8%	7.1%	7.6%	7.7%
15 - 17	6%	3.8%	4.9%	4.5%
18 - 24	7.4%	8.1%	6.3%	7.1%
25 - 44	23.2%	24.5%	22.6%	22.7%
45 - 64	27.4%	27.3%	28.6%	26%
65 or older	15.9%	19.1%	16.6%	19.1%
65 - 84	13.5%	14.8%	13.9%	16.3%
85 or older	2.4%	4.3%	2.7%	2.8%
Median ⁴ Age (years)	39.7	42.3	41.2	40.6
Age Dependency ^{a, 5}	72.4	66.8	74.2	79.4
Old-Age	27.4	31.9	28.9	34.2
Child	45.0	34.9	45.3	45.2

^aAge Dependency Ratio

Merrill, Iowa Population Pyramid, a 20201



^aEach bar represents the percentage that an age-sex group comprises of the total population.

The median household income in Merrill is less than the median household income of Plymouth County. The median value of owner-occupied housing units is lower in Merrill than for Plymouth County. There is a higher percentage of vacant housing units in Merrill than there is for Plymouth County. Many housing units in Merrill were built between 1960 to 1979.

Median Household and Per Capita Income, 2018-2022²

	City		Co	ounty
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Households	360	+/- 79	10,214	+/- 159
Less than \$34,999	12.2%	+/- 3.0%	18.1%	+/- 2.1%
\$35,000 To \$49,999	13.1%	+/- 12.0%	9.6%	+/- 1.4%
\$50,000 To \$99,999	45.5%	+/- 4.5%	35.5%	+/- 2.2%
\$100,000 Or More	29.2%	+/- 3.8%	36.8%	+/- 2.3%
Median ⁴ Household Income	\$76,250	+/- \$18,641	\$79,963	+/- \$2,681
Median Family Income	\$93,063	+/- \$12,234	\$94,094	+/- \$4,060
Per Capita Income	\$30,709	+/- \$3,940	\$40,150	+/- \$1,854

Educational Attainment, 2018-2022²

	(City	County		
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*	
Population 25 and older	558	+/-110	17,302	+/-106	
High School Graduate or Higher	90.1%	+/-5.6%	94.3%	+/-1%	
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	**%	+/-**%	24.1%	+/-2.3%	

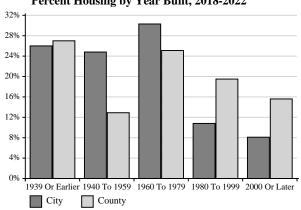
^{*}MOE = the margin of error for American Community Survey estimates² which is a numerical value that when added to or subtracted from the point estimate value gives the range of a 90% confidence interval around the estimate.

Housing Characteristics, 2018-2022²

		City	Co	ounty
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Units	396	+/- 84	10,819	+/- 31
Vacant	9.1%	+/- 7.3%	5.6%	+/- 1.5%
Occupied	90.9%	+/- 7.3%	94.4%	+/- 1.5%
Occupied ^a	360	+/- 79	10,214	+/- 159
Owner	78.9%	+/- 11.6%	75.3%	+/- 2.5%
Renter	21.1%	+/- 11.6%	24.7%	+/- 2.5%
Rent ^b	\$588	+/- \$213	\$816	+/- \$42
Value ^c	\$152,100	+/-\$12,626	\$199,800	+/-\$9,869

^aOccupied Units, ^bMedian gross rent of renter-occupied units, ^cMedian value of owner-occupied units

Percent Housing by Year Built, 2018-2022²



In Merrill there is a higher percentage of workers in management, business, science, and arts occupations than any other occupation category. The production, transportation, and material moving occupation category makes up 25.9% of occupations of the civilian employed population in the city.

Occupation of the Civilian Employed Population, $2018-2022^2$

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	495	+/- 105	13,579	+/- 392
Management, business, science, and arts	28.9%	+/- 7.2%	34.5%	+/- 2.7%
Service	16.4%	+/- 6.0%	15.1%	+/- 2.0%
Sales and office	21.0%	+/- 6.4%	17.7%	+/- 2.1%
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance	**%	+/- **%	11.9%	+/- 1.9%
Production, transportation, and material moving	25.9%	+/- 9.8%	20.6%	+/- 2.1%

^{**}MOE is high, use county estimate.

Merrill has a lower proportion of the population age 16 or older in the labor force than Plymouth County. A portion of those who are not in the labor force are people who are retired. Earnings data are provided for the population 16 and over who have earnings. Median earnings in Merrill tend to be lower than the median earnings for Plymouth County. Families with children tend to have a higher rate of poverty than families without children.

Median Employment Earnings, 2018-2022²

		City	County		
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*	
Population 16+ ^a	515	+/- 108	14,657	+/- 333	
Median Earnings	\$39,375	+/- \$39	\$45,816	+/- \$1,344	
Female	\$27,500	+/- \$12,215	\$37,587	+/- \$2,254	
Female, full time ^b	\$42,321	+/- \$13,053	\$48,110	+/- \$1,973	
Male	\$53,750	+/- \$9,617	\$52,608	+/- \$2,719	
Male, full time ^b	\$60,833	+/- \$10,122	\$60,346	+/- \$3,415	

^a with earnings, ^b year round, **MOE is high, use county estimate.

Disability Status and Health Insurance Coverage of the Civilian Noninstitutionalized Population, 2018-2022²

	City		Co	ounty
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population ^a	960	+/-200	25,295	+/-37
With a disability ^b	10.0%	+/-2.9%	12.1%	+/-1.3%
With Health Insurance	95.7%	+/-4.4%	94.6%	+/-1.6%
With Private ^c Coverage	72.5%	+/-15.0%	78.3%	+/-2.5%
With Public ^d Coverage	36.9%	+/-13.7%	30.4%	+/-2.0%
No Health Insurance	**%	+/-**%	5.4%	+/-1.6%

^aCivilan Noninstitutionalized Population, ^blimitations of activities or inability for full participation, ^cprovided by employer, union, bought by individual, and some miliary plans, ^dincludes Medicare, Medicaid, VA Health Care, children's CHIP, and some state plans, **MOE is high, use county estimate.

Employment Status, 2018-2022²

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population 16+	738	+/- 160	20,037	+/- 110
in labor force	69.0%	+/- 8.2%	69.5%	+/- 1.9%
not in labor force	31.0%	+/- 8.2%	30.5%	+/- 1.9%
Civilian labor force	509	+/- 106	13,872	+/- 396
Unemployed	2.8%	+/- 2.8%	2.1%	+/- 0.6%

^{**}MOE is high, use county estimate.

Individuals and Families Below Poverty Level, 2018-2022²

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Population ^a	960	+/-200	25,267	+/-55
Below poverty	**%	+/-**%	5.7%	+/-1.3%
17 and under	**%	+/-**%	**%	+/-**%
18 - 64	**%	+/-**%	4.9%	+/-1.3%
65+	**%	+/-**%	7.7%	+/-2.0%
All Families	**%	+/-**%	3.2%	+/-1.0%
with children	**%	+/-**%	4.2%	+/-2.0%
Married Couple	**%	+/-**%	1.9%	+/-0.9%
with children	**%	+/-**%	**%	+/-**%
Female HH ^b	**%	+/-**%	**%	+/-**%
with children	**%	+/-**%	**%	+/-**%

^a for whom poverty status is determined, ^b female householder, no husband present, **MOE is high, use county estimate.

Notes and Source Information:

- ¹U.S. Census Bureau; Decennial Censuses 1940 2020
- ²U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey 2018-2022
- ³ For the 2020 Decennial Census, households are divided into subcategories by two different methods. One method (family or nonfamily) is based on the presence or absence of family relationships among the household members and the householder. Using family relationships (birth, marriage, or adoption) has been the usual way to classify households, and the data using this method has good comparability between 2010 and 2020. In 2020, the Census Bureau introduced an additional method to divide households into subcategories. This second method (couple or noncouple) is based on the presence or absence of a couple relationship for the householder. The relationship can be as a married spouse or as an unmarried partner and can be of the opposite or same sex. The 2020 data reported for the second method (except for married couples) does not have good comparability with data from 2010. For smaller towns, the couple or noncouple data are omitted in this profile.
- ⁴Median is the middle value of a distribution.
- ⁵The age dependency ratio compares, by age, those typically not in the labor force with those who typically are in the labor force. Old Age dependency is persons 65+ per 100 persons age 18-64. Child dependency is persons under age 18 per 100 persons age 18-64. The total age dependency ratio is persons under age 18 plus persons 65 or older per 100 persons age 18-64.

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^{*}MOE = the margin of error for American Community Survey estimates² which is a numerical value that when added to or subtracted from the point estimate value gives the range of a 90% confidence interval around the estimate.