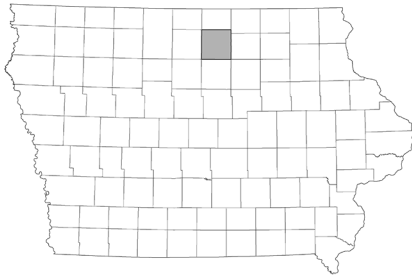


# Data for Decision Makers



## Cerro Gordo County County Profile

report created: 12/13/2024

### Population profile

Cerro Gordo County is a micropolitan county in north central Iowa. It is composed of eleven incorporated communities and their surrounding rural areas. From 2010 to 2020, Cerro Gordo County's population decreased by 2.32% while the state's population increased by 4.73%.

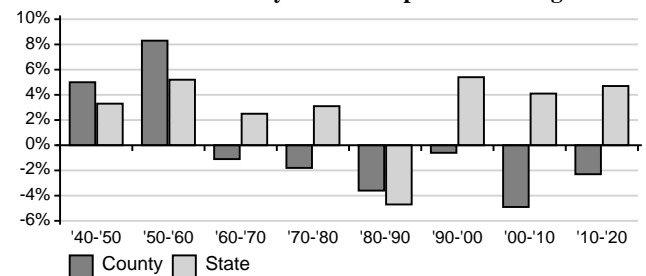
#### Total Population<sup>1</sup>

Totals	2000	2010	2020
<b>Cerro Gordo County</b>	<b>46,447</b>	<b>44,151</b>	<b>43,127</b>
Male Total	22,354	21,542	21,034
Female Total	24,093	22,609	22,093
City			
Clear Lake	8,161	7,777	7,687
Dougherty	80	58	62
Mason City	29,172	28,079	27,338
Meservey	252	256	222
Nora Springs <sup>†</sup>	1,532	1,431	1,369
Plymouth	429	382	375
Rock Falls	170	155	150
Rockwell	989	1,039	1,071
Swaledale	174	165	144
Thornton	422	422	400
Ventura	670	717	711
State Total	2,926,324	3,046,355	3,190,369

#### Neighboring Counties - Percent Population Change<sup>1</sup>

County	'90-'00	'00-'10	'10-'20
Butler, IA	-2.71%	-2.86%	-3.59%
<b>Cerro Gordo, IA</b>	<b>-0.61%</b>	<b>-4.94%</b>	<b>-2.32%</b>
Floyd, IA	-0.93%	-3.53%	-4.15%
Franklin, IA	-5.81%	-0.22%	-6.19%
Hancock, IA	-4.26%	-6.27%	-4.81%
Mitchell, IA	-0.49%	-0.90%	-1.96%
Winnebago, IA	-3.29%	-7.31%	-1.72%
Worth, IA	-1.03%	-3.93%	-2.04%
Wright, IA	0.46%	-7.71%	-2.16%
State of Iowa	5.39%	4.10%	4.73%

#### Cerro Gordo County Percent Population Change<sup>1</sup>



<sup>†</sup>City is located in multiple counties, total population is provided.

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## Demographic Profile

## Cerro Gordo County

As with the other 98 counties in the state, Cerro Gordo County's population is predominantly white. The percentage of the population of Hispanic origin increased between 2010 and 2020. In 2020, Cerro Gordo County had a lower percentage of those 17 or younger than the state. New household relationship categories were reported for 2020 that are not comparable with 2010<sup>3</sup>.

**Percentage of Population by Race/Hispanic Origin<sup>1</sup>**

Race Groups	County		State	
	2010	2020	2010	2020
One race only	98.4%	95.0%	98.2%	94.4%
White	95.0%	89.5%	91.3%	84.5%
White alone, not Hispanic	92.6%	87.7%	88.7%	82.7%
Black or African American	1.3%	2.2%	2.9%	4.1%
Asian	0.9%	1.2%	1.7%	2.4%
American Indian	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%	0.5%
Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.3%	0.1%	0.2%
Other	0.9%	1.4%	1.8%	2.8%
Two or more races	1.6%	5.0%	1.8%	5.6%
Hispanic origin <sup>a</sup>	3.8%	5.2%	5.0%	6.8%

<sup>a</sup>Hispanics can be of any race.

**Households by Family or Nonfamily Type<sup>1,3</sup>**

	County		State	
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total households	19,350	19,224	1,221,576	1,288,560
Family households <sup>a,b</sup>	60.9%	58.8%	64.7%	63.0%
Married couple family <sup>b</sup>	47.6%	45.1%	51.2%	48.5%
With own children	16.3%	13.6%	20.0%	18.2%
Other family <sup>c</sup>	13.3%	13.7%	13.5%	14.4%
Male householder <sup>c</sup>	4.0%	4.4%	4.2%	4.9%
With own children	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.7%
Female householder <sup>c</sup>	9.4%	9.4%	9.3%	9.6%
With own children	5.7%	5.4%	5.9%	5.7%
Nonfamily households <sup>d</sup>	39.1%	41.2%	35.3%	37.0%
Male living alone	14.3%	15.8%	12.8%	14.2%
Female living alone	18.7%	19.2%	15.7%	15.8%

**Households by Couple or Non-couple Type<sup>1,3</sup>**

	County		State	
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total households	19,350	19,224	1,221,576	1,288,560
Married couple <sup>b</sup>	47.6%	45.1%	51.2%	48.5%
Cohabiting couple <sup>b,f</sup>	NA <sup>e</sup>	7.3%	NA <sup>e</sup>	7.1%
Male householder <sup>g</sup>	NA <sup>e</sup>	19.9%	NA <sup>e</sup>	19.5%
Female householder <sup>g</sup>	NA <sup>e</sup>	27.7%	NA <sup>e</sup>	24.9%

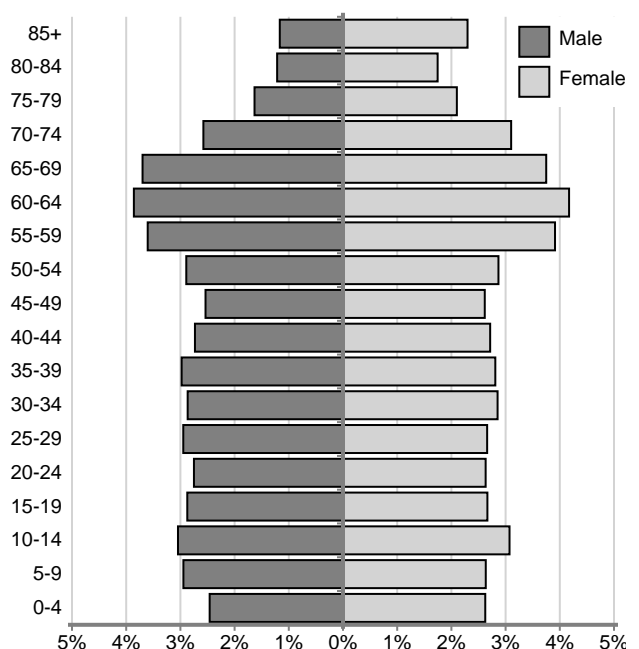
<sup>a</sup>Householder and at least one other person related to the householder. <sup>b</sup>For 2020 includes same-sex couples. <sup>c</sup>No spouse present, but at least one relative present. <sup>d</sup>In 2010 included same-sex couples whether married or not (if no relatives present). <sup>e</sup>2010 not comparable with 2020. <sup>f</sup>For 2020 householder has an unmarried partner. <sup>g</sup>For 2020 no spouse or partner present, but relatives, nonrelatives may be present or householder may be living alone.

**Percentage of Population by Age<sup>1</sup>**

Age Groups	County		State	
	2010	2020	2010	2020
17 or younger	21.5%	20.2%	23.9%	23.2%
0 - 4	5.8%	5.1%	6.6%	6.0%
5 - 9	5.6%	5.6%	6.6%	6.5%
10 - 14	6.2%	6.1%	6.6%	6.8%
15 - 17	3.9%	3.4%	4.1%	3.9%
18 - 24	8.4%	7.5%	10.0%	9.8%
25 - 44	22.1%	22.5%	24.5%	24.6%
45 - 64	30.1%	26.5%	26.7%	24.5%
65 or older	17.9%	23.3%	14.9%	18.0%
65 - 84	14.9%	19.8%	12.4%	15.6%
85 or older	3.0%	3.5%	2.5%	2.4%
Median <sup>4</sup> age (years)	43.3	44.7	38.1	38.6
Age dependency <sup>a,5</sup>	65.0	77.0	63.4	69.9
Old-Age	29.5	41.2	24.3	30.6
Child	35.5	35.8	39.1	39.4

<sup>a</sup>Age Dependency Ratio.

**Cerro Gordo County Population Pyramid<sup>a</sup>, 2020<sup>1</sup>**



<sup>a</sup>Each bar represents the percentage that each age-sex group comprises of the total population.

## Socioeconomic Profile

## Cerro Gordo County

The median household income in Cerro Gordo County is less than the median household income of the state. More households in Cerro Gordo County are in the \$50,000 to \$99,999 household income group while more of Iowa households are in the \$100,000 or more household income group. The median value of owner-occupied housing can vary among counties. The median value of owner-occupied housing units is lower in Cerro Gordo County than for the state. There is a higher percentage of vacant housing units in Cerro Gordo County than there is for the state. Many housing units in Cerro Gordo County were built prior to 1940. Cerro Gordo County has a lower percentage of college graduates than does the state.

**Median<sup>4</sup> Household and Per Capita Income, 2018-2022<sup>2</sup>**

	County		State	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total households	19,450	+/- 330	1,290,139	+/- 4,032
Less than \$14,999	7.2%	+/- 1.4%	7.8%	+/- 0.4%
\$15,000 to \$34,999	18.2%	+/- 1.8%	15.2%	+/- 0.6%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	14.0%	+/- 1.9%	11.9%	+/- 0.2%
\$50,000 to \$99,999	33.2%	+/- 1.9%	32.2%	+/- 0.6%
\$100,000 Or More	27.4%	+/- 2.0%	32.9%	+/- 0.8%
Median <sup>4</sup> household income	\$63,149	+/- \$2,092	\$70,571	+/- \$395
Median <sup>4</sup> family income	\$85,924	+/- \$6,143	\$90,921	+/- \$579
Per capita income	\$38,377	+/- \$2,450	\$37,949	+/- \$241

**Educational Attainment, 2018-2022<sup>2</sup>**

	County		State	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population 25 and older	30,790	+/-145	2,131,202	+/-967
High school graduate or higher	93.7%	+/-1.0%	93.0%	+/-0.1%
Bachelor's degree or higher	24.0%	+/-1.7%	30.3%	+/-0.3%

\*MOE = the margin of error for American Community Survey estimates<sup>2</sup> 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.

In Cerro Gordo County there is a higher percentage of workers in management, business, science, and arts occupations than any other occupation category while the production, transportation, and material moving occupation category makes up 21.4% of occupations of the civilian employed population in the county.

**Occupation of the Civilian Employed Population, 2018-2022<sup>2</sup>**

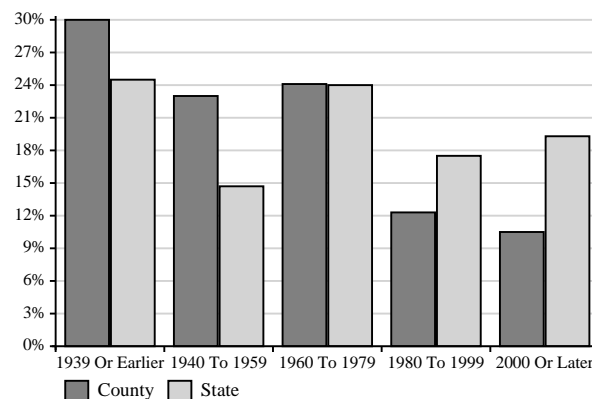
	County		State	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	21,989	+/- 595	1,627,434	+/- 5,740
Management, business, science, and arts	31.3%	+/- 2.4%	38.1%	+/- 0.3%
Service	19.0%	+/- 1.9%	15.5%	+/- 0.2%
Sales and office	20.9%	+/- 2.0%	19.7%	+/- 0.2%
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance	7.3%	+/- 1.4%	9.5%	+/- 0.2%
Production, transportation, and material moving	21.4%	+/- 1.9%	17.2%	+/- 0.2%

**Housing Characteristics, 2018-2022<sup>2</sup>**

	County		State	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total units	22,651	+/- 60	1,417,064	+/- 977
Vacant	14.1%	+/- 1.4%	9.0%	+/- 0.3%
Occupied	85.9%	+/- 1.4%	91.0%	+/- 0.3%
Occupied <sup>a</sup>	19,450	+/- 330	1,290,139	+/- 4,032
Owner	71.6%	+/- 1.9%	71.5%	+/- 0.3%
Renter	28.4%	+/- 1.9%	28.5%	+/- 0.3%
Median <sup>4</sup> rent <sup>b</sup>	\$812	+/- \$29	\$914	+/- \$6
Median value <sup>c</sup>	\$145,200	+/- \$5,938	\$181,600	+/- \$1,035

<sup>a</sup>Occupied Units. <sup>b</sup>Median gross rent of renter-occupied units <sup>c</sup>Median value of owner-occupied units.

**Percent Housing by Year Built, 2018-2022<sup>2</sup>**



## Socioeconomic Profile

## Cerro Gordo County

Cerro Gordo County has a lower proportion of the population age 16 or older in the labor force than the state. A portion of those who are not in the labor force are people who are retired. The percent unemployed in Cerro Gordo County is lower than that for the state overall. Earnings data are provided for the population 16 and over who have earnings. Median<sup>4</sup> earnings in Cerro Gordo County tend to be lower than the median earnings for the state. There is a lower percentage of families in Cerro Gordo County below poverty level than for the state. Families with children tend to have a higher rate of poverty than families without children.

**Employment Status, 2018-2022<sup>2</sup>**

	County		State	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population 16+	35,112	+/- 162	2,544,719	+/- 1,266
In labor force	64.6%	+/- 1.7%	66.6%	+/- 0.2%
Not in labor force	35.4%	+/- 1.7%	33.4%	+/- 0.2%
Civilian labor force	22,661	+/- 581	1,692,129	+/- 5,407
Unemployed	3.0%	+/- 1.0%	3.8%	+/- 0.1%

**Individuals Below Poverty Level by Race, 2018-2022<sup>2</sup>**

	County		State	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total population <sup>a</sup>	42,118	+/-39	3,088,999	+/-950
Percent below	9.3%	+/-0.2%	11.1%	+/-0.2%
White alone	8.9%	+/-1.5%	9.7%	+/-0.2%
Black/African American alone	***	+/-***	30.5%	+/-1.9%
Asian/Pacific Islander alone	***	+/-***	13.6%	+/-1.4%
American Indian alone	***	+/-***	27.6%	+/-4%
Hawaiian alone	***	+/-***	33.1%	+/-8.5%
Other race alone	***	+/-***	16.6%	+/-2.3%
Two or more races	***	+/-***	17.6%	+/-1.3%
Hispanic origin <sup>b</sup>	12.7%	+/-5.7%	17.4%	+/-1.1%

<sup>a</sup>for whom poverty status is determined, <sup>b</sup>Hispanics can be of any race. \*\*\*MOE is high, use state estimate.

\*MOE = the margin of error for American Community Survey estimates<sup>2</sup> 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.

**Median<sup>4</sup> Employment Earnings, 2018-2022<sup>2</sup>**

	County		State	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population 16+ <sup>a</sup>	24,096	+/- 576	1,799,851	+/- 5,338
Median earnings	\$38,367 +/-	\$1,371	\$40,905	+/- \$219
Female	\$32,522 +/-	\$1,910	\$33,724	+/- \$250
Male	\$47,847 +/-	\$2,443	\$48,115	+/- \$407
Female, full time <sup>b</sup>	\$45,566 +/-	\$2,306	\$47,128	+/- \$238
Male, full time <sup>b</sup>	\$61,126 +/-	\$3,020	\$59,875	+/- \$356

<sup>a</sup>with earnings. <sup>b</sup>year round.

**Individuals and Families Below Poverty Level, 2018-2022<sup>2</sup>**

	County		State	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total population <sup>a</sup>	42,118	+/-39	3,088,999	+/-950
Below poverty	9.3%	+/-0.2%	11.1%	+/-0.2%
17 and under	11.5%	+/-3.6%	13%	+/-0.4%
18 - 64	9.5%	+/-1.6%	11.4%	+/-0.2%
65+	6.8%	+/-1.6%	7.7%	+/-0.2%
All families	5.5%	+/-1.7%	7%	+/-0.2%
With children	8.9%	+/-4.3%	11.5%	+/-0.4%
Married couple	***	+/-***	3.2%	+/-0.1%
With children	***	+/-***	4.1%	+/-0.3%
Female HH <sup>b</sup>	24.6%	+/-10.3%	25.4%	+/-1%
With children	***	+/-***	32.4%	+/-1.4%

<sup>a</sup>for whom poverty status is determined, <sup>b</sup>female householder, no spouse present, \*\*\*MOE is high. Use state estimate.

### Notes and Source Information:

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau; Decennial Censuses 1940 - 2020

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey 2018-2022

<sup>3</sup> 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. In this profile, the 2020 data are reported, but items for 2010 are omitted.

<sup>4</sup> Median is the middle value of a distribution.

<sup>5</sup> The 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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