Data for Decision Makers



West Branch, Iowa City Profile

report created: 12/17/2024

Population profile

The 2020 population for West Branch is 2,509. Between 2010 and 2020 the population increased by 8.1%. The City of West Branch is in Cedar County. Cedar County saw a 0.0% population increase between 2010 and 2020.

Cedar County Cities - Total Population¹

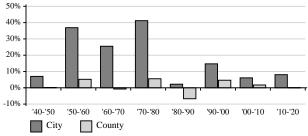
Cedar County Cities - Total Topulation							
City	2000	2010	2020				
West Branch [†]	2,188	2,322	2,509				
Male Total	1,039	1,132	1,214				
Female Total	1,149	1,190	1,295				
Bennett	395	405	347				
Clarence	1,008	974	1,039				
$Durant^{\dagger}$	1,677	1,832	1,871				
Lowden	794	789	807				
Mechanicsville	1,173	1,146	1,020				
Stanwood	680	684	637				
Tipton	3,155	3,221	3,149				
$Wilton^{\dagger}$	2,829	2,802	2,924				
Cedar County Total	18,187	18,499	18,505				
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
Atalissa	-20.7%	9.9%	-4.8%
Hills	2.6%	3.5%	22.8%
Iowa City	4.2%	9.1%	10.3%
University Heights	-5.3%	6.5%	16.8%
West Liberty	13.5%	12.1%	3.3%
West Branch	14.7%	6.1%	8.1%
Cedar County	4.6%	1.7%	0.0%
State of Iowa	5.4%	4.1%	4.7%





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Demographic Profile

West Branch, Iowa

West Branch's population is predominantly White. The City of West Branch, compared to Cedar County, had a higher percentage of young people (17 or younger) and a lower 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	98.7%	94.4%	98.9%	96.3%
White	97.0%	91.2%	97.8%	94.4%
White alone, not Hispanic	95.4%	89.8%	96.7%	93.7%
Black or African American	0.4%	0.6%	0.3%	0.4%
Asian	0.6%	0.5%	0.5%	0.3%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	0.3%
Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other	0.4%	1.9%	0.2%	0.8%
Two or more races	1.3%	5.6%	1.1%	3.7%
Hispanic origin ^a	2.1%	5.1%	1.5%	2.5%

^a Hispanics can be of any race.

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

•	•		-	
	(City	Co	unty
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total households	947	1,034	7,511	7,594
Family households ^{a,b}	64.6%	66.5%	69.0%	66.8%
Married couple family ^b	50.2%	51.5%	57.6%	54.4%
With own children	21.5%	18.3%	22.0%	19.3%
Other family ^c	14.5%	15.8%	11.4%	12.4%
Male householder ^c	5.2%	5.3%	4.0%	4.7%
With own children	4.1%	3.2%	2.5%	2.4%
Female householder ^c	9.3%	10.4%	7.5%	7.7%
With own children	7.1%	5.4%	5.1%	4.5%
Nonfamily households ^d	35.4%	33.5%	31.0%	33.2%
Male living alone	13.1%	14.0%	12.1%	13.0%
Female living alone	15.1%	18.1%	14.2%	14.2%

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

		City		ounty
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total households	947	1,034	7,511	7,594
Married couple ^b	50.2%	51.5%	57.6%	54.4%
Cohabiting couple ^{b,f}	NA ^e	6.6%	NA ^e	7.5%
Male householder g	NA ^e	18.8%	NA^e	17.3%
Female householder g	NA ^e	27.7%	NA ^e	20.8%

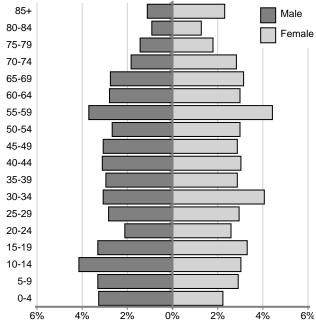
^aHouseholder and at least one other person related to the householder. ^bFor 2020 includes same-sex couples. ^cNo spouse present, but at least one relative present. ^dIn 2010 included same-sex couples whether married or not (if no relatives present). ^e2010 not comparable with 2020. ^fFor 2020 householder 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	24.6%	22.9%	24.5%	22.8%
0 - 4	6.5%	5.5%	6.2%	5.0%
5 - 9	6.8%	6.2%	6.8%	6.1%
10 - 14	7%	7.2%	6.9%	7.3%
15 - 17	4.3%	4%	4.6%	4.4%
18 - 24	8%	7.3%	6.1%	6.4%
25 - 44	25.5%	24.8%	22.9%	22.4%
45 - 64	28.4%	25.5%	29.7%	27.8%
65 or older	13.5%	19.4%	16.7%	20.5%
65 - 84	10.7%	16%	13.7%	17.7%
85 or older	2.8%	3.4%	3.0%	2.8%
Median ⁴ Age (years)	38.7	41.0	42.4	43.6
Age Dependency ^{a, 5}	61.6	73.4	70.1	76.5
Old-Age	21.8	33.7	28.4	36.2
Child	39.7	39.8	41.7	40.3

^aAge Dependency Ratio

West Branch, Iowa Population Pyramid, a 20201



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

Socioeconomic Profile

West Branch, Iowa

The median household income in West Branch is less than the median household income of Cedar County. The median value of owner-occupied housing units is higher in West Branch than for Cedar County. There is a lower percentage of vacant housing units in West Branch than there is for Cedar County. Many housing units in West Branch were built in 2000 or later. There is a higher percentage of individuals 25 and older with a Bachelor's degree or higher in West Branch compared to Cedar County.

Median Household and Per Capita Income, 2018-2022²

		City	Co	ounty
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Households	981	+/- 125	7,508	+/- 176
Less than \$34,999	21.9%	+/- 3.5%	19.9%	+/- 2.3%
\$35,000 To \$49,999	13.9%	+/- 6.6%	11.9%	+/- 2.1%
\$50,000 To \$99,999	38.5%	+/- 3.7%	34.0%	+/- 2.1%
\$100,000 Or More	25.7%	+/- 3.3%	34.3%	+/- 2.3%
Median ⁴ Household Income	\$72,938	+/- \$16,418	\$76,959	+/- \$3,151
Median Family Income	\$94,583	+/- \$9,423	\$94,132	+/- \$4,189
Per Capita Income	\$32,988	+/- \$4,159	\$36,808	+/- \$1,568

Educational Attainment, 2018-2022²

		City	County		
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*	
Population 25 and older	1,580	+/-149	13,224	+/-46	
High School Graduate or Higher	95.1%	+/-2.8%	95.6%	+/-1%	
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	26.1%	+/-5.5%	20.9%	+/-1.7%	

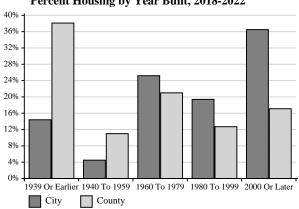
^{*}MOE = the margin of error for American Community Survey estimates² which is a numerical value that when added to or subtracted from the point estimate value gives the range of a 90% confidence interval around the estimate.

Housing Characteristics, 2018-2022²

		City	Co	ounty
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Units	1,066	+/- 139	8,213	+/- 47
Vacant	8.0%	+/- 6.0%	8.6%	+/- 2.1%
Occupied	92.0%	+/- 6.0%	91.4%	+/- 2.1%
Occupied ^a	981	+/- 125	7,508	+/- 176
Owner	77.5%	+/- 7.1%	80.6%	+/- 2.7%
Renter	22.5%	+/- 7.1%	19.4%	+/- 2.7%
Rent ^b	\$906	+/- \$61	\$830	+/- \$39
Value ^c	\$205,000	+/-\$19,827	\$180,700	+/-\$9,311

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

Percent Housing by Year Built, 2018-2022²



In West Branch 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 16.3% of occupations of the civilian employed population in the city.

Occupation of the Civilian Employed Population, 2018-2022²

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	1,458	+/- 134	9,710	+/- 248
Management, business, science, and arts	28.5%	+/- 6.3%	30.9%	+/- 2.5%
Service	17.4%	+/- 5.5%	16.6%	+/- 2.6%
Sales and office	25.4%	+/- 5.6%	22.1%	+/- 2.0%
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance	12.5%	+/- 5.0%	14.5%	+/- 1.9%
Production, transportation, and material moving	16.3%	+/- 5.4%	15.9%	+/- 1.9%

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

Socioeconomic Profile

West Branch, Iowa

West Branch has a higher proportion of the population age 16 or older in the labor force than Cedar 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 West Branch tend to be lower than the median earnings for Cedar 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	1,488	+/- 135	10,431	+/- 247
Median Earnings	\$42,885	+/- \$42	\$43,794	+/- \$2,858
Female	\$35,000	+/- \$12,969	\$36,421	+/- \$2,586
Female, full time ^b	\$45,568	+/- \$5,141	\$42,348	+/- \$3,400
Male	\$51,324	+/- \$5,632	\$52,357	+/- \$2,720
Male, full time ^b	\$55,611	+/- \$3,017	\$59,336	+/- \$3,268

^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		Со	unty
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population ^a	2,442	+/-61	18,209	+/-15
With a disability ^b	9.7%	+/-3.6%	11.4%	+/-1.2%
With Health Insurance	93.4%	+/-4.4%	96.6%	+/-1.0%
With Private ^c Coverage	77.6%	+/-6.2%	77.6%	+/-2.3%
With Public ^d Coverage	27.2%	+/-6.3%	34.8%	+/-2.1%
No Health Insurance	**%	+/-**%	3.4%	+/-1.0%

^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+	1,933	+/- 166	15,008	+/- 86
in labor force	75.8%	+/- 4.7%	66.7%	+/- 1.6%
not in labor force	24.2%	+/- 4.7%	33.3%	+/- 1.6%
Civilian labor force	1,466	+/- 137	10,011	+/- 252
Unemployed	0.5%	+/- 0.8%	3.0%	+/- 1.1%

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

Individuals and Families Below Poverty Level, 2018-2022²

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Population ^a	2,442	+/-61	18,104	+/-67
Below poverty	**%	+/-**%	7.8%	+/-1.5%
17 and under	**%	+/-**%	10.6%	+/-3.6%
18 - 64	**%	+/-**%	7.8%	+/-1.5%
65+	**%	+/-**%	4.7%	+/-1.8%
All Families	**%	+/-**%	4.6%	+/-1.1%
with children	**%	+/-**%	8.8%	+/-2.5%
Married Couple	**%	+/-**%	**%	+/-**%
with children	**%	+/-**%	**%	+/-**%
Female HH ^b	**%	+/-**%	24.8%	+/-9.2%
with children	**%	+/-**%	32.7%	+/-11.1%

^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
- ³For 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.
- ⁴ Median 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.