Data for Decision Makers



Wadena, Iowa City Profile

report created: 12/17/2024

Population profile

The 2020 population for Wadena is 209. Between 2010 and 2020 the population decreased by 20.2%. The City of Wadena is in Fayette County. Fayette County saw a 6.6% population decrease between 2010 and 2020. Wadena's population is predominantly White.

Total Population¹

City	2000	2010	2020
Wadena	243	262	209
Male Total	113	130	118
Female Total	130	132	91
Fayette County Total	22,008	20,880	19,509
State of Iowa Total	2,926,324	3,046,355	3,190,369

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

Percentage of Population by Race/Hispanic Origin¹

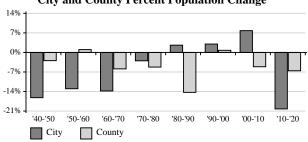
	City		Co	County	
Race Groups	2010	2020	2010	2020	
One race only	99.2%	94.3%	99.1%	96.1%	
White	99.2%	92.8%	97.0%	93.7%	
White alone, not Hispanic	99.2%	92.8%	95.7%	92.5%	
Black or African American	0.0%	0.5%	0.9%	1.0%	
Asian	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	0.4%	
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.2%	
Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	
Other	0.0%	1.0%	0.4%	0.8%	
Two or more races	0.8%	5.7%	0.9%	3.9%	
Hispanic origin ^a	0.8%	1.0%	1.8%	2.7%	

^a Hispanics can be of any race.

Neighboring Cities - Percent Population Change

	'90-'00	'00-'10	'10-'20
Arlington	5.4%	-12.4%	-2.3%
Clermont	36.9%	-11.7%	-7.3%
Elgin	6.1%	1.0%	0.3%
Fayette	-1.3%	2.9%	-6.1%
Volga	-19.3%	-15.8%	-2.4%
Wadena	3.0%	7.8%	-20.2%
Fayette County	0.8%	5.1%	-6.6%
State of Iowa	5.4%	4.1%	4.7%

City and County Percent Population Change¹



Regional Director
Bridget Shultz
Deb Kahler
720 7th Ave. SW
PO Box 700
Tripoli, IA 50676
Fayette, IA 52142
bshultz1@iastate.edu
319-882-4275
563-425-3331
https://indicators.extension.iastate.edu

The City of Wadena, compared to Fayette County, had a lower percentage of young people (17 or younger) and a higher percentage of older people (65 and older) in 2020. New household relationship categories were reported for 2020 that are not comparable with 2010.³

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

		City		County	
	2010	2020	2010	2020	
Total Households	111	107	8,634	8,174	
Family Households ^{a,b}	61.3%	69.5%	64.8%	61.7%	
Married couple family ^b	48.6%	42.4%	52.9%	49.0%	
With own children	19.8%	14.0%	18.2%	14.9%	
Other family ^c	12.6%	15.0%	11.9%	12.7%	
Male householder ^c	4.5%	9.3%	4.3%	4.9%	
With own children	3.6%	8.4%	2.5%	2.7%	
Female householder ^c	8.1%	5.6%	7.6%	7.8%	
With own children	6.3%	3.7%	4.9%	4.7%	
Nonfamily households ^d	38.7%	30.5%	35.2%	38.3%	
Male living alone	14.4%	24.3%	13.5%	15.8%	
Female living alone	14.4%	13.1%	16.2%	16.6%	

^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).

Housing Characteristics¹

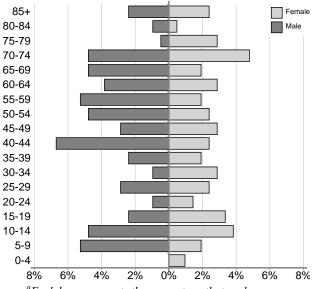
		City		County	
	2010	2020	2010	2020	
Total Units	123	109	9,558	9,298	
Vacant	9.8%	1.8%	9.7%	12.1%	
Occupied	90.2%	98.2%	90.3%	87.9%	
Occupied Units	111	107	8,634	8,174	
Owner Occupied	73.9%	72.0%	74.8%	76.1%	
Renter Occupied	26.1%	28.0%	25.2%	23.9%	

Percentage of Population by Age¹

	City		County	
Age Groups	2010	2020	2010	2020
17 or younger	26.7%	21.1%	22.5%	21.5%
18 - 44	30.9%	26.3%	29.8%	29.7%
45 - 64	26.0%	26.8%	28.3%	26.0%
65 or older	16.4%	25.8%	19.4%	22.8%
Median ⁴ Age (years)	37.6	46.9	43.2	44.0
Age Dependency ^{a, 5}	75.7	88.3	72.1	79.5
Old-Age	28.8	48.6	33.4	40.9
Child	46.9	39.7	38.7	38.6

^aAge Dependency Ratio

Wadena, Iowa Population Pyramid,^a 2020¹



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

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.
- ⁴Median is the middle value of a distribution.
- ⁵ 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.

This series was prepared by:

Christopher J. Seeger, Professor & Extension Specialist Bailey Hanson, Data Analyst III & Extension Specialist Sandra Burke, Research Scientist III & Extension Specialist Jay Maxwell, Data Analyst I & Extension Specialist

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