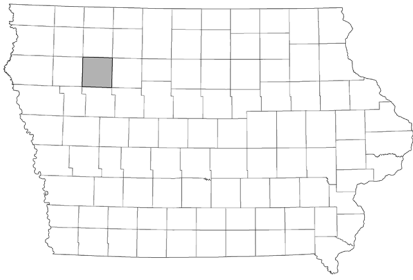# Data for Decision Makers

Buena Vista County
Health Profile

report created: 12/13/2024

Health Risk Factors

This Health *Data for Decision Makers* provides a wide range of county-level health data and information to help residents, health providers, and policy makers understand the health situations and needs of county residents. It can be a starting point for discussions on health issues and a guide to help shape future programming and policies. It is updated annually to provide the most current set of indicators and can be used to compare across counties, regions, and the state.

Selected Health Data in Buena Vista County[1]

	County			State		
	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021
Smoking	16.8%	18.7%	17.2%	17.4%	16.8%	15.5%
Excessive Drinking	19.7%	19.9%	17.3%	24.6%	24.7%	23.1%
Obesity	33.2%	33.0%	34.9%	34.3%	37.2%	36.9%
Diabetes	11.2%	10.3%	10.1%	9.0%	8.9%	8.5%
Inactive	33.1%	28.7%	29.4%	26.1%	22.7%	23.8%
Insufficient Sleep	NA	31.4%	NA	NA	31.6%	NA

Years of Life Expectancy[1]

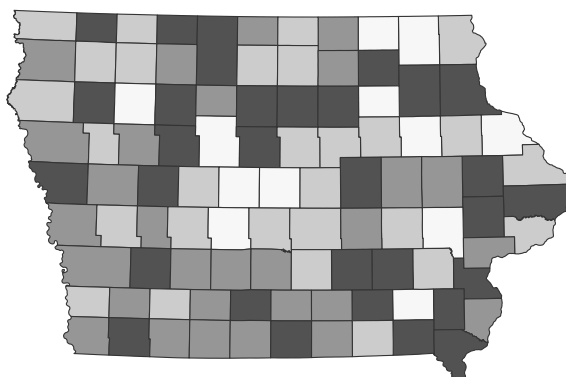|	County		State	
	2015-17	2019-21	2015-17	2019-21
Life Expectancy	81.5	80.0	79.5	78.1

Years of Life Expectancy (2019-2021)[1]
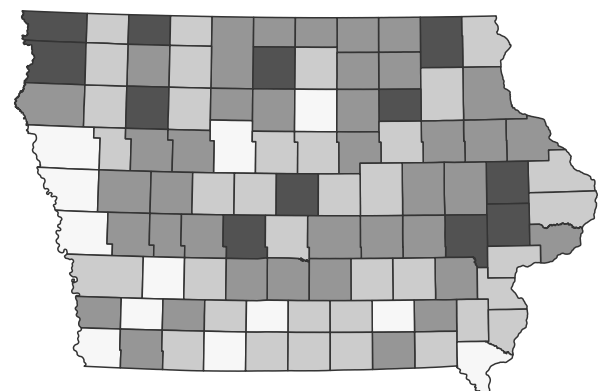
74.5 - 75.9   76.0 - 77.9   78.0 - 79.9   80 - 83.1

State: 78.1 Years

Percent Obese, 2021[1]

32.6% - 35.4%   35.5% - 37.4%   37.5% - 38.9%   39.0% - 43.0%

State: 36.9%

Contacts:

Regional Director
Terry Janssen
209 Centennial Dr., Ste A
Cherokee, IA 51012
tjans@iastate.edu
712-225-6196

County Office
Stacie Hewett
701 Seneca St., Ste 1
Storm Lake, IA 50588
shewett@iastate.edu
712-732-5056

https://indicators.extension.iastate.edu

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Percent Poor or Fair Health, Frequent Physical Distress, and Frequent Mental Distress in Buena Vista County[1]

Legend: 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021
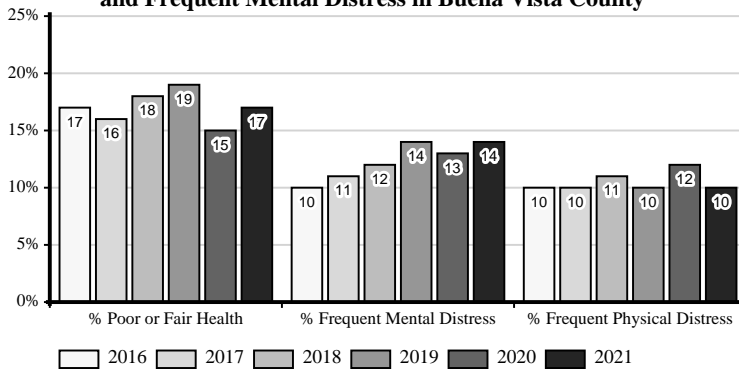
Number of Births and Deaths in Buena Vista County[*4]

Births   Deaths   *Intervals of years vary*
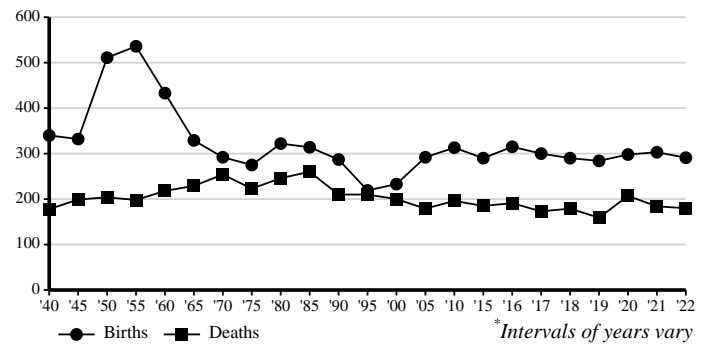
Ten-Year Counts of Selected Causes of Deaths[*2]

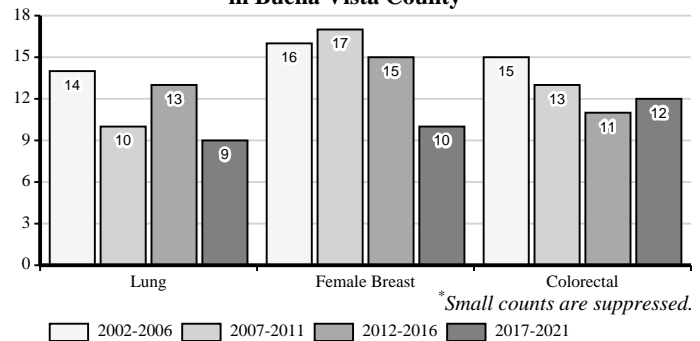|	County		State	
	2004-13	2014-23	2004-13	2014-23
Deaths, 10 Year Counts				
Total Deaths	1,860	1,813	278,642	316,814
Alcohol[**] or Drugs	14	28	4,459	8,436
Suicides	22	9	3,695	4,955
Homicides	1	4	571	879
Transport Accidents	28	23	4,314	3,951
Other Accidents	44	52	8,179	12,085
Average Annual Count (rounded)				
Total Deaths	186	181	27,864	31,681
Alcohol[**] or Drugs	1	3	446	844
Suicides	2	1	370	496
Homicides	0	0	57	88
Transport Accidents	3	2	431	395
Other Accidents	4	5	818	1,209

[*]*Small counts are suppressed. Deaths are by the county of residence of the decedent.*
[**]*Alcohol deaths include alcohol abuse and alcohol related diseases.*

Number of All Cancer Cases and Cancer Deaths in Buena Vista County[*2,5]

Cases   Deaths   *Cancer deaths result from multiple years of cases.*
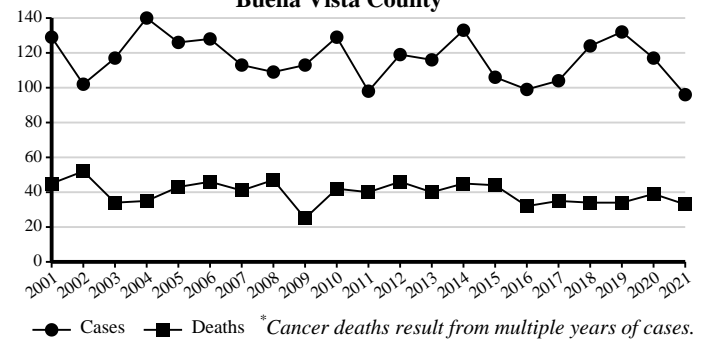
Estimated Annual Cancer Count by Type in Buena Vista County[*5]

Small counts are suppressed.

Legend: 2002-2006, 2007-2011, 2012-2016, 2017-2021

**Number of Fatalities and Injuries in Vehicle Crashes Where Driver was Under the Influence of Drugs or Alcohol in Buena Vista County, 2014-2023[*3]**

Fatalities   Injuries   *Attributed to the county of crash location.*
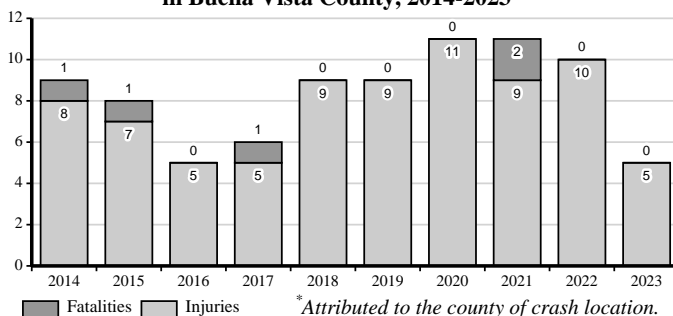
Five-Year Cancer Crude Rate per 100,000 Population at Risk by Type in Buena Vista County[*5]

Rates county: 2002-2006, 2007-2011, 2012-2016, 2017-2021
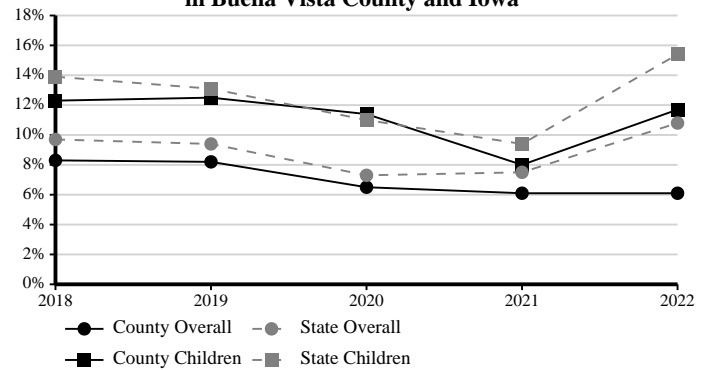Rates state: •
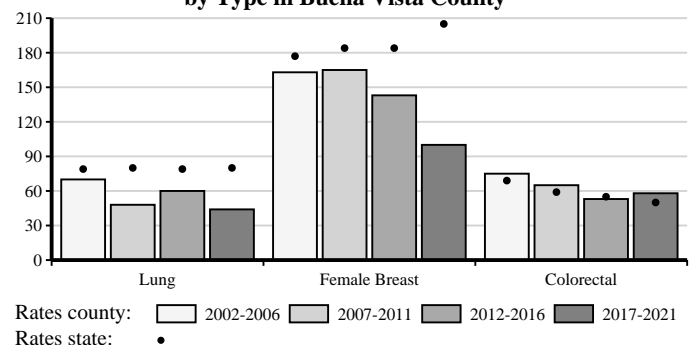
Number of ER Visits with a Primary Diagnosis of Asthma in Buena Vista County[*6]
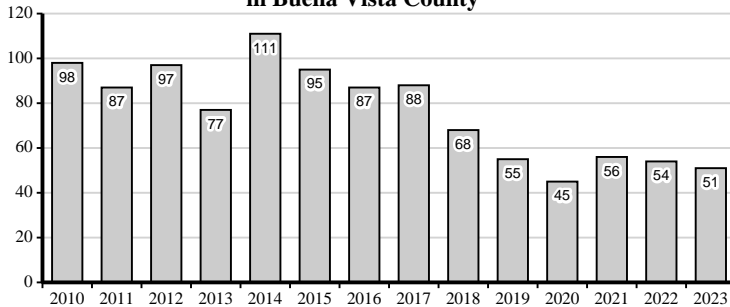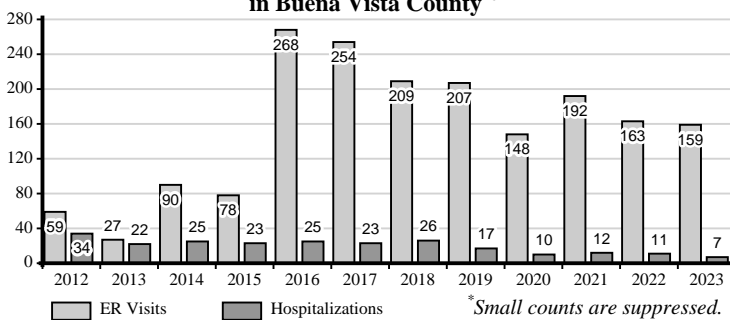

Small counts are suppressed. If all years are suppressed, chart will be blank.

### Percent of Population Food Insecure in Buena Vista County and Iowa[7]

— County Overall   ·○· State Overall
— County Children   ·■· State Children

Number of ER Visits and Hospitalizations with a Primary Diagnosis of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) in Buena Vista County[*6]

ER Visits   Hospitalizations   *Small counts are suppressed.*

Percent of Children Food Insecure, 2022[7]

☐ 8.5% - 11.9%   ☐ 12% - 15.9%   ■ 16% - 19.9%   ■ 20% - 22.5%
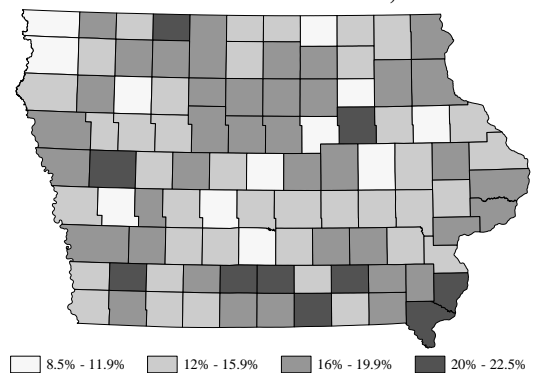
Number Hospitalizations with a Primary Diagnosis of Heart Attack in Buena Vista County[*6]
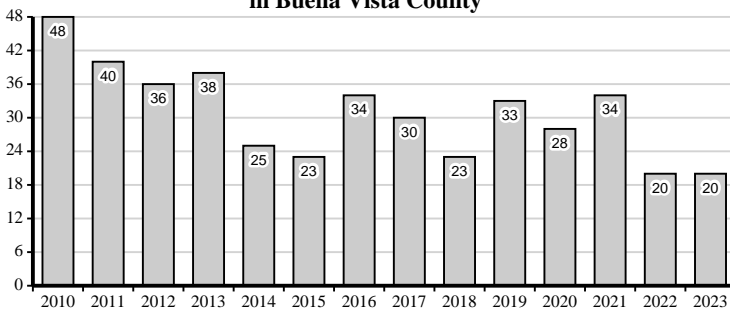
Small counts are suppressed. If all years are suppressed, chart will be blank.

Average Monthly Number of Recipients and Households Receiving Food Assistance in Buena Vista County[8]

—●— Households   —■— Recipients
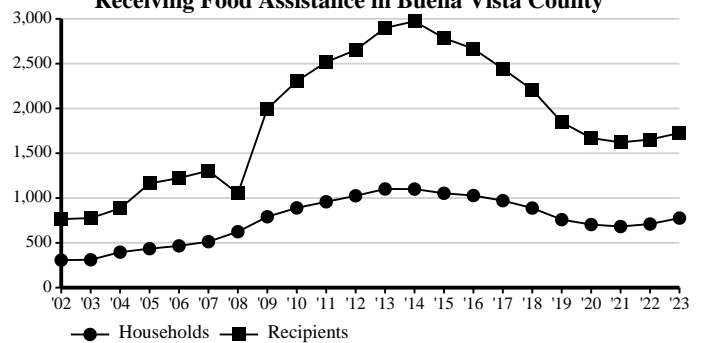
Number of ER Visits and Hospitalizations with a Diagnosis of Unintentional Fall-Related Injuries in Buena Vista County[*6]
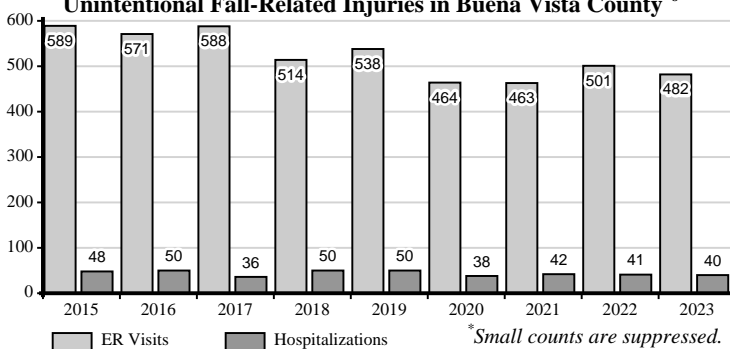
ER Visits   Hospitalizations   *Small counts are suppressed.*

Average Food Assistance Benefits Paid Per Recipient Per Month in Buena Vista County and Iowa[8]

—●— County   —●— State

Number of Weekly Reported COVID-19 Cases in Buena Vista County[9]

Cumulative Percentage of Population with COVID-19 Vaccinations and Boosters by Age in Buena Vista County, May 2023[10]

	County %	State %	Completed Vaccination Series
	County %	State %	Completed Vaccination Series + Booster

Primary Care Physicians, Dentists, and Mental Health Providers in Buena Vista County and Iowa[1]

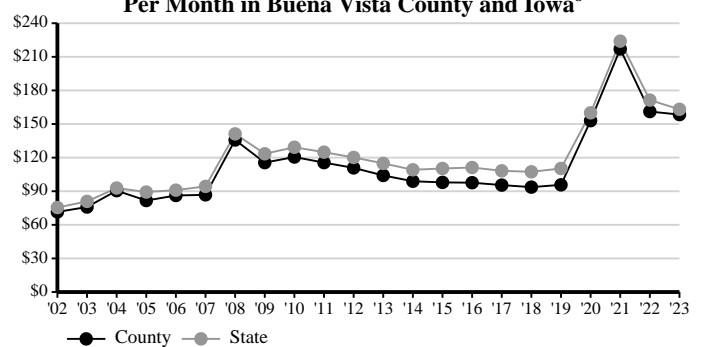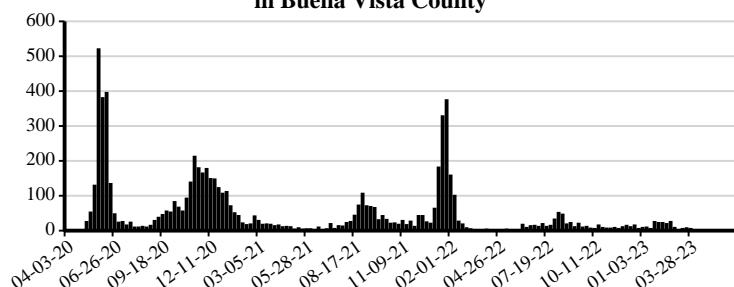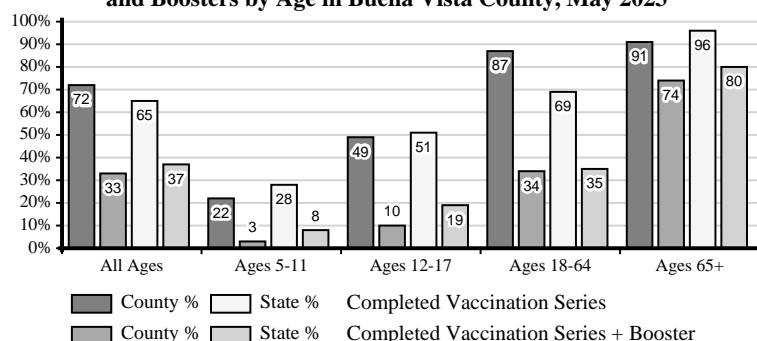|	County Providers	County Population per Provider	State Providers	State Population per Provider
Primary Physicians				
2021	11	1,888	2,305	1,385
2020	12	1,648	2,331	1,357
2019	11	1,784	2,343	1,347
Dentists				
2022	13	1,585	2,268	1,411
2021	13	1,598	2,231	1,431
2020	12	1,648	2,203	1,436
Mental Health				
2023	15	1,373	6,358	503
2022	13	1,598	6,001	532
2021	9	2,197	5,555	569

Number of Hospitals, Nursing Facilities, and Beds in Buena Vista County and Iowa[11]

	County		State	
	2019	2021	2019	2021
Hospitals	1	1	122	120
Hospital Beds	35	35	11,771	11,423
Nursing Facilities	3	3	419	414
Nursing Facility Beds	179	179	29,581	28,474

3-Year Cumulative Reported COVID-19 Cases and Rates per 100,000, March 2020 - March 2023[9]

	County	State
Cumulative Cases	7,005	908,936
Cumulative Rate*	33,641 / 100,000	28,490 / 100,000

Rate per 100,000 population

Monthly Estimated Percent of Household Pulse Survey Respondents Reporting Having Had COVID-19, long COVID, and Vaccinations for COVID-19, Iowa and U.S. 2024[12]

Vaccination, US	Positive COVID, US	Long COVID, US
Vaccination, IA	Positive COVID, IA	Long COVID, IA
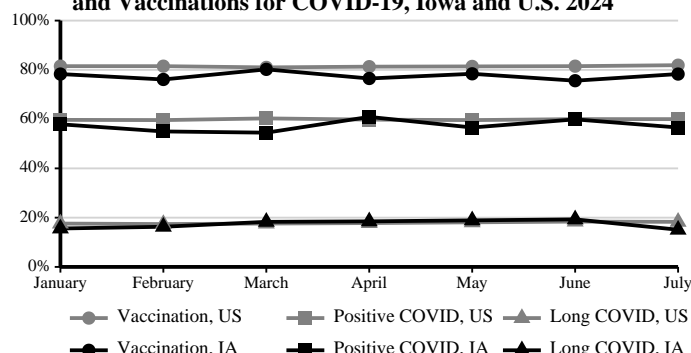
Population 18 and older. Percent estimates are considered experimental.

Total Deaths and COVID-19 Deaths 2020-2023 in Buena Vista County and Iowa[4]

	County	State
Total Deaths 2023	NA	NA
COVID-19 Deaths 2023	NA	NA
COVID-19 Deaths as % of all Deaths 2023	NA	NA
Total Deaths 2022	180	33,968
COVID-19 Deaths 2022	13	1,700
COVID-19 Deaths as % of all Deaths 2022	7.2%	5.0%
Total Deaths 2021	184	34,216
COVID-19 Deaths 2021	14	3,015
COVID-19 Deaths as % of all Deaths 2021	7.6%	8.8%
Total Deaths 2020	207	35,975
COVID-19 Deaths 2020	30	4,306
COVID-19 Deaths as % of all Deaths 2020	14.5%	12.0%

Small counts are suppressed.

Number of Persons Receiving Substance Use Treatment by Substance Type in Buena Vista County and Iowa[13]

	County		State	
	2022	2023	2022	2023
Total Persons Treated	153	144	17,703	17,609
Alcohol	111	92	7,597	7,645
Marijuana/Hashish	26	28	3,163	3,127
Methamphetamine	14	22	4,899	4,687
Other Substances	0	0	1,501	1,686

Small treatment counts are suppressed.

Disability Characteristics, 2018-2022[14]

	County		State	
	Estimate	MOE[†]	Estimate	MOE[†]
Total Population	20,388	+/-16	3,142,658	+/-508
With a Disability	9.4%	+/-1.3%	12.2%	+/-0.1%
Hearing	3%	+/-0.7%	3.8%	+/-0.1%
Vision	1.6%	+/-0.7%	1.9%	+/-0.1%
Cognitive	3.8%	+/-1%	4.9%	+/-0.1%
Ambulatory	5%	+/-1%	5.8%	+/-0.1%
Self care	1.5%	+/-0.6%	2.1%	+/-0.1%
Independent Living	3.1%	+/-0.6%	5.1%	+/-0.1%
Ages 18-64	11,784	+/-219	1,878,854	+/-1,559
With a Disability	7.4%	NA	7.2%	NA
Hearing	1.1%	+/-0.4%	2.1%	+/-0.1%
Vision	1.1%	+/-0.7%	1.6%	+/-0.1%
Cognitive	4%	+/-1.2%	4.7%	+/-0.1%
Ambulatory	2.7%	+/-0.8%	3.9%	+/-0.1%
Self care	0.8%	+/-0.3%	1.5%	+/-0.1%
Independent Living	1.7%	+/-0.4%	3.5%	+/-0.1%
Ages 65-74	1,904	+/-112	316,485	+/-730
With a Disability	19.2%	+/-5.3%	22%	+/-0.5%
Hearing	7.1%	+/-3.4%	9.3%	+/-0.3%
Vision	2.9%	+/-2.1%	3.2%	+/-0.2%
Cognitive	2.3%	+/-0.9%	3.9%	+/-0.2%
Ambulatory	12.1%	+/-4.2%	11.9%	+/-0.4%
Self care	0.9%	+/-0.6%	3.1%	+/-0.2%
Independent Living	3.2%	+/-1.3%	5.5%	+/-0.2%
Ages 75 and above	1,285	+/-70	218,340	+/-720
With a Disability	40.3%	+/-8.2%	43.3%	+/-0.6%
Hearing	20.2%	+/-4.9%	21.8%	+/-0.5%
Vision	4.6%	+/-2.6%	7.2%	+/-0.4%
Cognitive	6.1%	+/-2.6%	9.1%	+/-0.4%
Ambulatory	23.6%	+/-7.1%	25.4%	+/-0.6%
Self care	5.8%	+/-2.9%	8.5%	+/-0.3%
Independent Living	15.3%	+/-5.4%	18.2%	+/-0.5%

Educational Attainment, 2018-2022[14]

	County		State	
	Estimate	MOE[†]	Estimate	MOE[†]
Population 25 and older	13,055	+/-145	2,131,202	+/-967
High School Graduate or Higher	79.3%	+/-2.2%	93%	+/-0.1%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	21.6%	+/-2.4%	30.3%	+/-0.3%

Percentage of Population by Age[15]

	County		State	
Age Groups	2010	2020	2010	2020
17 or younger	25.0%	26.4%	23.9%	23.2%
18 - 24	11.7%	10.1%	10.0%	9.8%
25 - 44	21.9%	24.0%	24.5%	24.6%
45 - 64	26.3%	23.2%	26.7%	24.5%
65 or older	15.1%	16.2%	14.9%	18.0%
65 - 84	11.8%	13.5%	12.4%	15.6%
85 or older	3.3%	2.7%	2.5%	2.4%
Median[a] age (years)	37.1	35.7	38.1	38.6
Age dependency[b]	66.8	74.3	63.4	69.9
Old-age	25.2	28.3	24.3	30.6
Child	41.7	46.1	39.1	39.4

Percentage of Population by Race/Hispanic Origin[15]

	County		State	
Race Groups	2010	2020	2010	2020
One race only	98.2%	89.4%	98.2%	94.4%
White	80.7%	60.5%	91.3%	84.5%
White alone, not Hispanic	67.9%	54.6%	88.7%	82.7%
Black or African American	2.7%	2.8%	2.9%	4.1%
Asian	5.6%	9.2%	1.7%	2.4%
American Indian	0.3%	0.6%	0.4%	0.5%
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0.5%	3.0%	0.1%	0.2%
Other	8.5%	13.4%	1.8%	2.8%
Two or more races	1.8%	10.6%	1.8%	5.6%
Hispanic origin[a]	22.7%	28.5%	5.0%	6.8%

[a]Hispanics can be of any race.

Percent of Households Spending 30% or More of Household Income on Monthly Owner or Renter Costs[14]

Legend: Owner Occupied Units - County; Owner Occupied Units - State; Renter Occupied Units - County; Renter Occupied Units - State
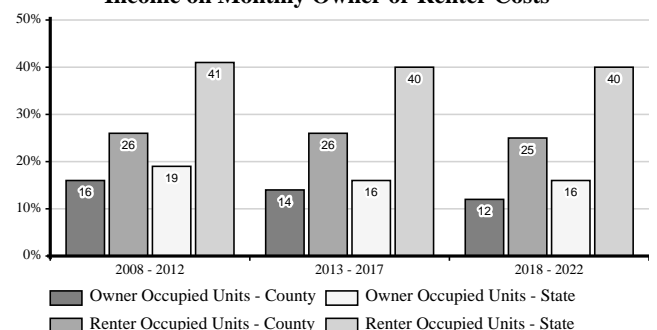
Ages 0-18 Percent Health Uninsured Population by Poverty Level[16]

- ● County Uninsured: All Income
- ● State Uninsured: All Income
- ■ County Uninsured: Poverty
- ■ State Uninsured: Poverty
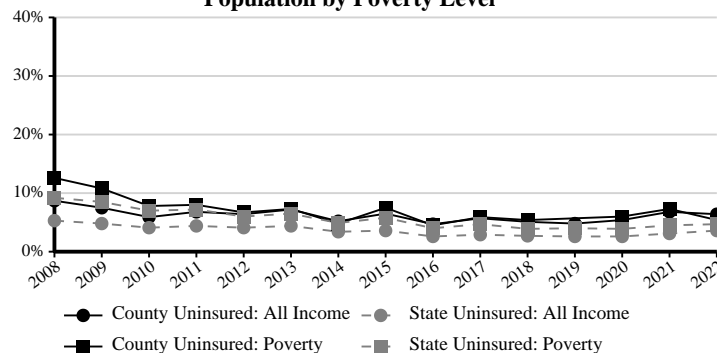
Ages 18-64 Percent Health Uninsured Population by Poverty Level[16]

- ● County Uninsured: All Income
- ● State Uninsured: All Income
- ■ County Uninsured: Poverty
- ■ State Uninsured: Poverty
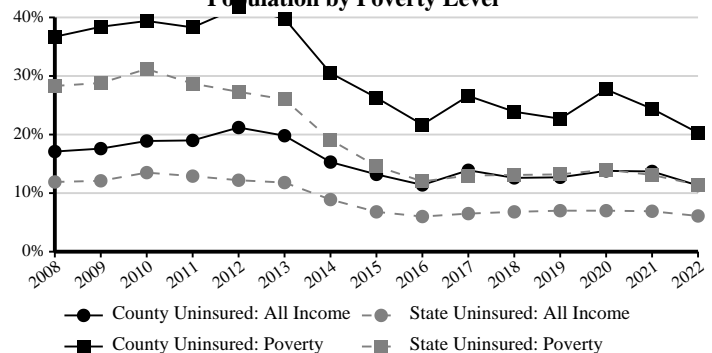
Median[a] Household and Per Capita Income, 2018-2022[14]

	County		State	
	Estimate	MOE[†]	Estimate	MOE[†]
Total Households	7,538	+/- 171	1,290,139	+/- 4,032
Median Household Income	$62,662	+/- $5,799	$70,571	+/- $395
Median Family Income	$87,475	+/- $4,720	$90,921	+/- $579
Per Capita Income	$31,985	+/- $1,764	$37,949	+/- $241

[†]*MOE = the margin of error for American Community Survey estimates 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.*

Percent Below Poverty Level by Age[17]

- ● County % All Ages
- ● State % All Ages
- ■ County % Under 18
- ■ State % Under 18
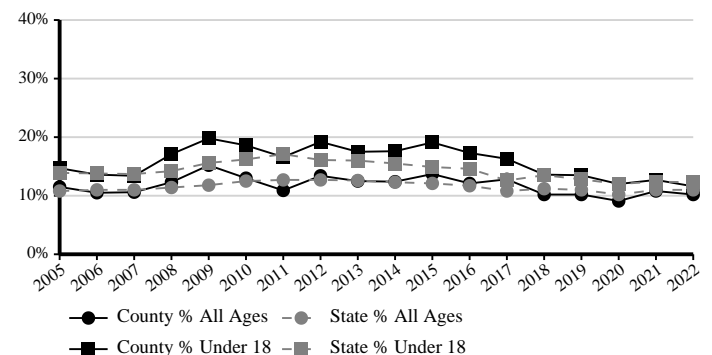
Information in this document was derived from:

[1]County Health Rankings and Roadmaps: https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/

[2]Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC WONDER, Multiple Cause of Death: https://wonder.cdc.gov/mcd.html

[3]Iowa Dept of Transportation, Iowa Crash Analysis Tool: https://icat.iowadot.gov/

[4]Iowa Dept of Health and Human Services, Vital Statistics of Iowa Annual Report: https://hhs.iowa.gov/public-health/health-statistics

[5]Iowa Cancer Registry, special data request: https://shri.public-health.uiowa.edu/cancer-data/ and https://uiowa.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6G7RizlRVgVf1C6

[6]Iowa Public Health Tracking Portal: https://hhs.iowa.gov/public-health/data

[7]Feeding America, Map the Meal Gap, requested data: https://map.feedingamerica.org/ and https://www.feedingamerica.org/research/map-the-meal-gap/by-county

[8]Iowa Data Portal, Health and Human Services, Food Assistance: https://data.iowa.gov/Economic-Supports/Total-Food-Assistance-Allotments-and-Average-House/vhhz-nz4t/about_data

[9]Iowa Dept of Health and Human Services, previously Iowa Department of Public Health, 2020 - 2023: https://idph.iowa.gov/Emerging-Health-Issues/Novel-Coronavirus/COVID-19-Reporting/ and https://coronavirus.iowa.gov/

[10]Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, COVID-19 vaccinations, previous site last updated May, 12, 2023: https://data.cdc.gov/Vaccinations/COVID-19-Vaccinations-in-the-United-States-County/8xkx-amqh/

[11]Iowa Health Fact Book: https://iowahealthfactbook.org/

[12]U.S. Census Bureau, Household Pulse Survey, 2024 Data Tables, Phases 4.0, 4.1, Cycles 01 – 06 https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/household-pulse-survey/data/tables.html

[13]Iowa Dept of Health and Human Services, Division of Behavioral Health, Iowa Behavioral Reporting System (IBHRS), special data request: https://hhs.iowa.gov/programs/mental-health/substance-use-disorder/behavioral-health-reporting-system

[14]American Community Survey, 5-year estimates, U.S. Census Bureau: https://www.census.gov/

[15]Decennial Censuses, U.S. Census Bureau: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial-census/decade/2020/2020-census-main.html

[16]Small Area Health Insurance Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sahie.html

[17]Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/saipe.html/

[a]Median is the middle value of a distribution.

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

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