Data for Decision Makers



Zearing, Iowa City Profile

report created: 12/17/2024

Population profile

The 2020 population for Zearing is 528. Between 2010 and 2020 the population decreased by 4.7%. The City of Zearing is in Story County. Story County saw a 10.0% population increase between 2010 and 2020.

Story County Cities - Total Population¹

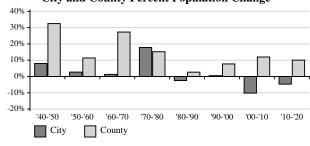
Story County Cities - Total Population							
City	2000	2010	2020				
Zearing	617	554	528				
Male Total	286	277	262				
Female Total	331	277	266				
Ames	50,731	58,965	66,427				
Cambridge	819	827	827				
Collins	499	495	495				
Colo	868	876	845				
Gilbert	987	1,082	1,211				
Huxley	2,316	3,317	4,244				
Kelley	300	309	304				
Maxwell	807	920	859				
McCallsburg	318	333	353				
Nevada	6,658	6,798	6,925				
Roland	1,324	1,284	1,362				
Sheldahl [†]	336	319	297				
Slater	1,306	1,489	1,543				
Story City	3,228	3,431	3,352				
Story County Total	79,981	89,542	98,537				
State of Iowa Total	2,926,324	3,046,355	3,190,369				

 $^{^\}dagger C$ ity is located in multiple counties, total population is provided.

Neighboring Cities - Percent Population Change

	'90-'00	'00-'10	'10-'20
Clemons	-14.5%	0.0%	-5.4%
Colo	12.6%	0.9%	-3.5%
Hubbard	8.7%	-4.5%	1.8%
McCallsburg	8.9%	4.7%	6.0%
St. Anthony	-2.7%	-6.4%	-25.5%
Zearing	0.5%	-10.2%	-4.7%
Story County	7.7%	12.0%	10.0%
State of Iowa	5.4%	4.1%	4.7%

City and County Percent Population Change¹



Regional Director Donovan Olson 1421 S Bell Ave. Ste 107 Ames, IA 50010 donovano@iastate.edu 515-337-1601

County Office Donovan Olson 1421 S Bell Ave., Ste 107 Ames, IA 50010 donovano@iastate.edu 515-337-1601

https://indicators.extension.iastate.edu

Zearing's population is predominantly White. The City of Zearing, compared to Story County, had a higher 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

Percentage of Population by Race/Hispanic Origin¹

	(City		ounty
Race Groups	2010	2020	2010	2020
One race only	99.8%	95.3%	98.3%	93.9%
White	99.6%	93.8%	88.6%	82.2%
White alone, not Hispanic	99.6%	93.0%	86.9%	81.1%
Black or African American	0.2%	0.6%	2.5%	3.1%
Asian	0.0%	0.6%	6.0%	5.5%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.3%
Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other	0.0%	0.4%	1.0%	2.7%
Two or more races	0.2%	4.7%	1.7%	6.1%
Hispanic origin ^a	0.0%	1.5%	3.0%	5.1%

^a Hispanics can be of any race.

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

•	•	•	• -	
		City	C	ounty
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total households	219	218	34,736	38,273
Family households ^{a,b}	66.7%	66.5%	53.2%	50.9%
Married couple family ^b	52.1%	48.6%	44.0%	41.0%
With own children	23.3%	22.0%	17.9%	15.7%
Other family ^c	14.6%	17.9%	9.2%	9.9%
Male householder ^c	6.4%	7.3%	3.0%	3.7%
With own children	4.6%	4.1%	1.4%	1.9%
Female householder ^c	8.2%	10.6%	6.2%	6.2%
With own children	5.5%	5.0%	3.9%	3.5%
Nonfamily households ^d	33.3%	33.5%	46.8%	49.1%
Male living alone	17.4%	16.1%	13.7%	16.1%
Female living alone	13.7%	13.3%	14.6%	16.1%

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

		City		ounty
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total households	219	218	34,736	38,273
Married couple ^b	52.1%	48.6%	44.0%	41.0%
Cohabiting couple ^{b,f}	NA ^e	7.8%	NA ^e	6.6%
Male householder g	NA^e	22.0%	NA^e	26.4%
Female householder ^g	NA ^e	21.6%	NA ^e	26.1%

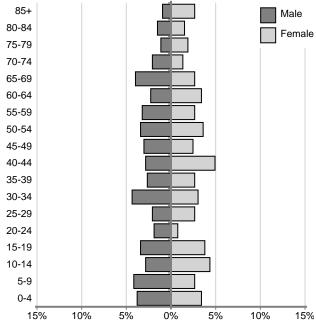
^aHouseholder and at least one other person related to the householder. ^bFor 2020 includes same-sex couples. ^cNo spouse present, but at least one relative present. ^dIn 2010 included same-sex couples whether married or not (if no relatives present). ^e2010 not comparable with 2020. ^fFor 2020 householder 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	unty
Age Groups	2010	2020	2010	2020
17 or younger	25.8%	26.9%	17.8%	16.8%
0 - 4	6%	7.2%	5.4%	4.6%
5 - 9	7.4%	6.8%	5.0%	4.6%
10 - 14	8.8%	7.2%	4.7%	4.8%
15 - 17	3.6%	5.7%	2.7%	2.8%
18 - 24	7%	4.2%	29.0%	30.1%
25 - 44	24.5%	25.2%	23.6%	23%
45 - 64	22.4%	24.1%	19.6%	17%
65 or older	20.2%	19.7%	10.0%	13.1%
65 - 84	15.1%	16%	8.3%	11.3%
85 or older	5.1%	3.6%	1.7%	1.8%
Median ⁴ Age (years)	39	41.0	26.7	26.9
Age Dependency ^{a, 5}	85.2	87.1	38.5	42.7
Old-Age	37.4	36.8	13.9	18.7
Child	47.8	50.3	24.7	24.0

^aAge Dependency Ratio

Zearing, 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 Zearing is less than the median household income of Story County. The median value of owner-occupied housing units is lower in Zearing than for Story County. There is a lower percentage of vacant housing units in Zearing than there is for Story County. Many housing units in Zearing were built prior to 1940. There is a lower percentage of individuals 25 and older with a Bachelor's degree or higher in Zearing compared to Story County.

Median Household and Per Capita Income, 2018-2022²

		City	Co	ounty
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Households	236	+/- 43	38,412	+/- 519
Less than \$34,999	22.5%	+/- 3.9%	27.1%	+/- 2.1%
\$35,000 To \$49,999	10.6%	+/- 9.9%	10.8%	+/- 0.9%
\$50,000 To \$99,999	52.9%	+/- 4.1%	31.2%	+/- 1.7%
\$100,000 Or More	13.9%	+/- 4.4%	30.9%	+/- 1.8%
Median ⁴ Household Income	\$62,917	+/- \$5,205	\$66,197	+/- \$2,497
Median Family Income	\$73,333	+/- \$19,167	\$109,432	+/- \$5,237
Per Capita Income	\$27,316	+/- \$3,165	\$35,704	+/- \$1,335

Educational Attainment, 2018-2022²

	(City	County		
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*	
Population 25 and older	450	+/-99	51,740	+/-159	
High School Graduate or Higher	97.1%	+/-4.2%	97.1%	+/-0.5%	
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	32.0%	+/-13.3%	52.5%	+/-1.7%	

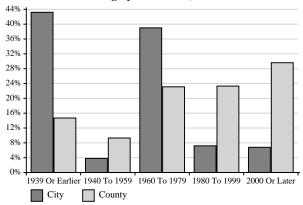
^{*}MOE = the margin of error for American Community Survey estimates² which is a numerical value that when added to or subtracted from the point estimate value gives the range of a 90% confidence interval around the estimate.

Housing Characteristics, 2018-2022²

		City	Co	ounty
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Units	236	+/- 43	41,347	+/- 104
Vacant	0.0%	+/- 10.0%	7.1%	+/- 1.2%
Occupied	100.0%	+/- 10.0%	92.9%	+/- 1.2%
Occupied ^a	236	+/- 43	38,412	+/- 519
Owner	75.8%	+/- 9.5%	55.7%	+/- 1.5%
Renter	24.2%	+/- 9.5%	44.3%	+/- 1.5%
Rent ^b	\$**	+/- \$**	\$991	+/- \$31
Value ^c	\$129,700	+/-\$15,828	\$229,100	+/-\$4,981

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

Percent Housing by Year Built, 2018-2022²



In Zearing 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 **% 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	321	+/- 93	53,259	+/- 1,076	
Management, business, science, and arts	40.2%	+/- 13.2%	46.4%	+/- 1.7%	
Service	8.1%	+/- 4.0%	18.0%	+/- 1.4%	
Sales and office	**%	+/- **%	18.6%	+/- 1.2%	
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance	**%	+/- **%	6.7%	+/- 0.7%	
Production, transportation, and material moving	**%	+/- **%	10.4%	+/- 1.2%	

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

Zearing has a higher proportion of the population age 16 or older in the labor force than Story 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 Zearing tend to be higher than the median earnings for Story County. Families with children tend to have a higher rate of poverty than families without children.

Median Employment Earnings, 2018-2022²

	(City		ounty
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population 16+ ^a	345	+/- 97	66,257	+/- 727
Median Earnings	\$33,787	+/- \$33	\$25,496	+/- \$1,879
Female	\$25,625	+/- \$3,787	\$21,413	+/- \$1,716
Female, full time ^b	\$51,563	+/- \$5,707	\$50,290	+/- \$2,523
Male	\$**	+/- \$**	\$29,186	+/- \$1,623
Male, full time ^b	\$63,021	+/- \$6,580	\$65,109	+/- \$2,900

^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	unty
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population ^a	626	+/-118	97,986	+/-81
With a disability ^b	9.1%	+/-3.4%	8.8%	+/-0.7%
With Health Insurance	96.3%	+/-2.5%	94.9%	+/-0.8%
With Private ^c Coverage	60.5%	+/-10.2%	84.4%	+/-1.3%
With Public ^d Coverage	49.7%	+/-10.3%	21.4%	+/-1.0%
No Health Insurance	**%	+/-**%	5.1%	+/-0.8%

^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+	486	+/- 103	84,617	+/- 183
in labor force	67.7%	+/- 7.9%	66.7%	+/- 1.1%
not in labor force	32.3%	+/- 7.9%	33.3%	+/- 1.1%
Civilian labor force	329	+/- 93	56,398	+/- 952
Unemployed	2.4%	+/- 2.2%	5.6%	+/- 1.3%

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

Individuals and Families Below Poverty Level, 2018-2022²

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Population ^a	624	+/-117	86,383	+/-184
Below poverty	22.8%	+/-10.6%	19.6%	+/-1.3%
17 and under	**%	+/-**%	8.6%	+/-2.5%
18 - 64	**%	+/-**%	25.4%	+/-1.7%
65+	**%	+/-**%	5.8%	+/-1.8%
All Families	**%	+/-**%	5.9%	+/-1.7%
with children	**%	+/-**%	8.5%	+/-3.4%
Married Couple	**%	+/-**%	2.1%	+/-0.6%
with children	**%	+/-**%	**%	+/-**%
Female HH ^b	**%	+/-**%	29.3%	+/-11.0%
with children	89.5%	+/-23.0%	37.7%	+/-14.7%

^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.
- 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.

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

For more information on these and other topics, please call the Extension and Outreach specialists listed on the cover page or visit the ISU Extension and Outreach Indicators website at https://indicators.extension.iastate.edu

This institution is an equal opportunity provider. For the full non-discrimination statement or accommodation inquiries, go to www.extension.iastate.edu/diversity/ext.

^{*}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.