Data for Decision Makers



Belle Plaine, Iowa City Profile

report created: 12/17/2024

Population profile

The 2020 population for Belle Plaine is 2,330. Between 2010 and 2020 the population decreased by 8.1%. The City of Belle Plaine is in Benton County. Benton County saw a 1.9% population decrease between 2010 and 2020.

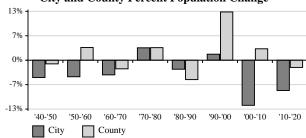
Benton County Cities - Total Topulation						
City	2000	2010	2020			
Belle Plaine	2,878	2,534	2,330			
Male Total	1,404	1,239	1,176			
Female Total	1,474	1,295	1,154			
Atkins	977	1,670	2,056			
Blairstown	682	692	713			
Garrison	413	371	344			
Keystone	687	622	599			
Luzerne	105	96	112			
Mount Auburn	160	150	162			
Newhall	886	875	876			
Norway	601	545	466			
Shellsburg	938	983	961			
Urbana	1,019	1,458	1,554			
Van Horne	716	682	774			
Vinton	5,102	5,257	4,938			
Walford [†]	1,224	1,463	1,366			
Benton County Total	25,308	26,076	25,575			
State of Iowa Total	2,926,324	3,046,355	3,190,369			

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

Neighboring Cities - Percent Population Change

	'90-'00	'00-'10	'10-'20
Chelsea	-14.6%	-7.0%	-14.2%
Elberon	20.7%	-20.0%	-6.1%
Hartwick	-27.8%	3.6%	7.0%
Keystone	21.0%	-9.5%	-3.7%
Luzerne	-4.5%	-8.6%	16.7%
Belle Plaine	1.6%	-12.0%	-8.1%
Benton County	12.8%	3.0%	-1.9%
State of Iowa	5.4%	4.1%	4.7%

City and County Percent Population Change¹



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Belle Plaine's population is predominantly White. The City of Belle Plaine, compared to Benton 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

Percentage of Population by Race/Hispanic Origin¹

	City		Co	unty
Race Groups	2010	2020	2010	2020
One race only	99.2%	95.6%	99.1%	96.3%
White	97.8%	93.9%	98.1%	94.9%
White alone, not Hispanic	96.9%	93.0%	97.4%	94.1%
Black or African American	0.3%	0.6%	0.4%	0.4%
Asian	0.4%	0.6%	0.3%	0.3%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.1%
Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other	0.7%	0.5%	0.2%	0.5%
Two or more races	0.8%	4.4%	0.9%	3.7%
Hispanic origin ^a	1.7%	2.0%	1.1%	1.8%

^a Hispanics can be of any race.

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

•	•	•		
	(City	Co	unty
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total households	1,101	1,058	10,302	10,282
Family households ^{a,b}	59.9%	62.5%	71.6%	69.2%
Married couple family ^b	45.9%	62.5%	59.6%	55.8%
With own children	17.0%	13.0%	23.8%	20.5%
Other family ^c	14.0%	15.2%	12.0%	13.4%
Male householder ^c	4.0%	5.6%	4.3%	5.2%
With own children	2.7%	3.3%	2.7%	3.1%
Female householder ^c	10.0%	9.6%	7.7%	8.3%
With own children	5.9%	5.0%	4.9%	4.7%
Nonfamily households ^d	40.1%	37.5%	28.4%	30.8%
Male living alone	15.0%	18.5%	11.3%	12.9%
Female living alone	19.5%	19.2%	12.7%	12.6%

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

		City		County		
	2010	2020	2010	2020		
Total households	1,101	1,058	10,302	10,282		
Married couple ^b	45.9%	62.5%	59.6%	55.8%		
Cohabiting couple ^{b,f}	NA ^e	8.4%	NA ^e	7.1%		
Male householder g	NA ^e	23.4%	NA^e	17.5%		
Female householder ^g	NA ^e	27.7%	NA ^e	19.6%		

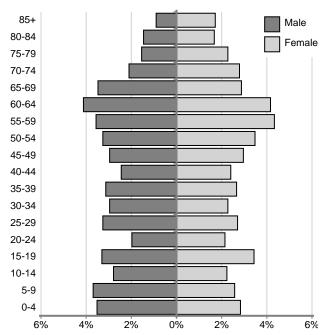
^aHouseholder and at least one other person related to the householder. ^bFor 2020 includes same-sex couples. ^cNo spouse present, but at least one relative present. ^dIn 2010 included same-sex couples whether married or not (if no relatives present). ^e2010 not comparable with 2020. ^fFor 2020 householder 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	23.5%	21.8%	25.5%	23.9%
0 - 4	5.7%	6.4%	6.3%	5.9%
5 - 9	7%	6.3%	7.1%	6.7%
10 - 14	6.2%	5.0%	7.2%	7.0%
15 - 17	4.6%	4.1%	4.9%	4.3%
18 - 24	6.9%	6.7%	6.4%	6.5%
25 - 44	22.4%	21.8%	24.1%	22.5%
45 - 64	28.1%	28.8%	28.6%	28.6%
65 or older	19.1%	20.8%	15.4%	18.3%
65 - 84	15%	18.2%	12.8%	16%
85 or older	4.1%	2.6%	2.6%	2.3%
Median ⁴ Age (years)	42.8	44.4	40.9	42.3
Age Dependency ^{a, 5}	74.1	74.3	69.2	73.3
Old-Age	33.2	36.3	26.1	31.8
Child	40.9	38.0	43.1	41.5

^aAge Dependency Ratio

Belle Plaine, Iowa Population Pyramid, 2020¹



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

Socioeconomic Profile

Belle Plaine, Iowa

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

Median Household and Per Capita Income, 2018-2022²

	(City	Co	ounty
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Households	990	+/- 86	10,114	+/- 222
Less than \$34,999	22.8%	+/- 3.3%	19.4%	+/- 2.3%
\$35,000 To \$49,999	12.2%	+/- 4.8%	9.7%	+/- 1.2%
\$50,000 To \$99,999	39.2%	+/- 3.5%	33.3%	+/- 2.0%
\$100,000 Or More	25.7%	+/- 3.2%	37.6%	+/- 2.2%
Median ⁴ Household Income	\$65,500	+/- \$6,946	\$79,444	+/- \$4,092
Median Family Income	\$79,813	+/- \$8,895	\$95,589	+/- \$5,495
Per Capita Income	\$35,218	+/- \$3,954	\$37,926	+/- \$1,272

Educational Attainment, 2018-2022²

	(City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*	
Population 25 and older	1,781	+/-200	17,867	+/-59	
High School Graduate or Higher	93.4%	+/-3.5%	94.4%	+/-1.2%	
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	14.9%	+/-3.7%	23.3%	+/-1.7%	

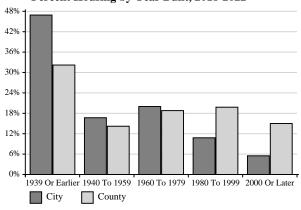
^{*}MOE = the margin of error for American Community Survey estimates² which is a numerical value that when added to or subtracted from the point estimate value gives the range of a 90% confidence interval around the estimate.

Housing Characteristics, 2018-2022²

	(City	Co	ounty
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Units	1,177	+/- 95	11,074	+/- 57
Vacant	15.9%	+/- 4.8%	8.7%	+/- 1.9%
Occupied	84.1%	+/- 4.8%	91.3%	+/- 1.9%
Occupied ^a	990	+/- 86	10,114	+/- 222
Owner	82.5%	+/- 4.2%	83.8%	+/- 2.2%
Renter	17.5%	+/- 4.2%	16.2%	+/- 2.2%
Rent ^b	\$678	+/- \$90	\$766	+/- \$73
Value ^c	\$109,000	+/-\$6,146	\$189,000	+/-\$8,699

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

Percent Housing by Year Built, 2018-2022²



In Belle Plaine there is a higher percentage of workers in production, transportation, and material moving occupations than any other occupation category. The production, transportation, and material moving occupation category makes up 35.9% of occupations of the civilian employed population in the city.

Occupation of the Civilian Employed Population, 2018-2022²

	City		Сог	County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*	
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	1,230	+/- 191	13,194	+/- 329	
Management, business, science, and arts	17.2%	+/- 4.8%	33.4%	+/- 1.9%	
Service	17.2%	+/- 6.1%	15.0%	+/- 1.9%	
Sales and office	12.7%	+/- 4.6%	19.4%	+/- 1.8%	
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance	17.0%	+/- 5.5%	14.8%	+/- 1.7%	
Production, transportation, and material moving	35.9%	+/- 7.8%	17.3%	+/- 1.9%	

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

Socioeconomic Profile

Belle Plaine, Iowa

Belle Plaine has a lower proportion of the population age 16 or older in the labor force than Benton 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 Belle Plaine tend to be lower than the median earnings for Benton 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	1,324	+/- 197	14,253	+/- 311
Median Earnings	\$43,442	+/- \$43	\$46,432	+/- \$1,632
Female	\$36,510	+/- \$4,395	\$38,745	+/- \$1,989
Female, full time ^b	\$39,487	+/- \$2,993	\$49,246	+/- \$3,808
Male	\$50,264	+/- \$3,635	\$54,994	+/- \$2,196
Male, full time ^b	\$55,174	+/- \$7,750	\$61,834	+/- \$3,691

^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		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population ^a	2,371	+/-225	25,384	+/-20
With a disability ^b	11.1%	+/-3.5%	11.7%	+/-1.1%
With Health Insurance	95.4%	+/-4.2%	97.3%	+/-0.6%
With Private ^c Coverage	70.8%	+/-6.9%	78.6%	+/-2.0%
With Public ^d Coverage	45.0%	+/-5.6%	33.9%	+/-1.9%
No Health Insurance	**%	+/-**%	2.7%	+/-0.6%

^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+	2,023	+/- 212	20,422	+/- 68
in labor force	62.2%	+/- 5.4%	66.2%	+/- 1.5%
not in labor force	37.8%	+/- 5.4%	33.8%	+/- 1.5%
Civilian labor force	1,258	+/- 185	13,511	+/- 311
Unemployed	2.2%	+/- 2.5%	2.3%	+/- 0.7%

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

Individuals and Families Below Poverty Level, 2018-2022²

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Population ^a	2,366	+/-226	25,175	+/-138
Below poverty	7.9%	+/-3.4%	8.3%	+/-1.3%
17 and under	**%	+/-**%	7.2%	+/-1.9%
18 - 64	6.9%	+/-2.9%	7.4%	+/-1.3%
65+	**%	+/-**%	12.6%	+/-4.3%
All Families	**%	+/-**%	4.3%	+/-1.2%
with children	**%	+/-**%	4.5%	+/-1.5%
Married Couple	**%	+/-**%	2.8%	+/-1.2%
with children	**%	+/-**%	**%	+/-**%
Female HH ^b	**%	+/-**%	17.9%	+/-7.7%
with children	**%	+/-**%	25.8%	+/-11.0%

^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.
- ⁴Median 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.