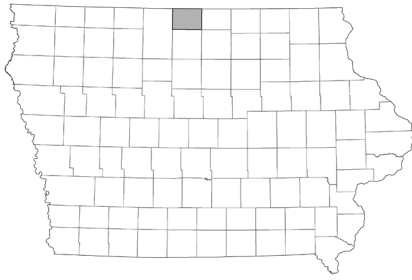


# Data for Decision Makers



## Forest City, Iowa City Profile

report created: 12/17/2024

### Population profile

The 2020 population for Forest City is 4,285. Between 2010 and 2020 the population increased by 3.2%. The City of Forest City is in Winnebago County. Winnebago County saw a 1.7% population decrease between 2010 and 2020.

Winnebago County Cities - Total Population<sup>1</sup>

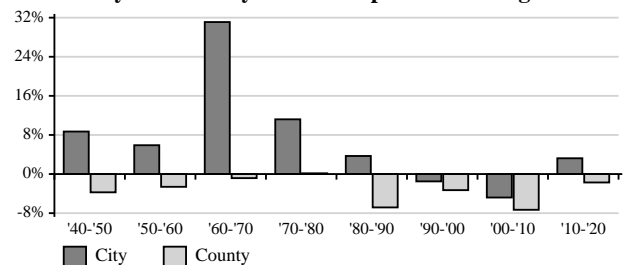
City	2000	2010	2020
<b>Forest City<sup>†</sup></b>	<b>4,362</b>	<b>4,151</b>	<b>4,285</b>
Male Total	2,126	2,036	2,142
Female Total	2,236	2,115	2,143
Buffalo Center	963	905	857
Lake Mills	2,140	2,100	2,143
Leland	258	289	249
Rake	227	225	186
Scarville	97	72	74
Thompson	596	502	495
Winnebago County Total	11,723	10,866	10,679
State of Iowa Total	2,926,324	3,046,355	3,190,369

<sup>†</sup>City is located in multiple counties, total population is provided.

Neighboring Cities - Percent Population Change

	'90-'00	'00-'10	'10-'20
Crystal Lake	7.1%	-12.3%	1.2%
Fertile	-5.8%	2.8%	-17.6%
Garner	0.2%	7.1%	-2.0%
Leland	-17.0%	12.0%	-13.8%
Thompson	19.7%	-15.8%	-1.4%
Forest City	-1.5%	-4.8%	3.2%
Winnebago County	-3.3%	7.3%	-1.7%
State of Iowa	5.4%	4.1%	4.7%

City and County Percent Population Change<sup>1</sup>



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# Demographic Profile

# Forest City, Iowa

Forest City's population is predominantly White. The City of Forest City, compared to Winnebago County, had a lower 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.<sup>3</sup>

**Percentage of Population by Race/Hispanic Origin<sup>1</sup>**

Race Groups	City		County	
	2010	2020	2010	2020
One race only	98.5%	94.7%	99.0%	96.1%
White	94.9%	85.8%	96.1%	90.5%
White alone, not Hispanic	92.9%	84.2%	94.3%	88.7%
Black or African American	1.5%	4.0%	0.8%	2.0%
Asian	1.3%	1.9%	0.8%	0.9%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%
Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Other	0.5%	2.5%	1.1%	2.4%
Two or more races	1.5%	5.3%	1.0%	3.9%
Hispanic origin <sup>a</sup>	3.0%	6.2%	3.3%	5.6%

<sup>a</sup> Hispanics can be of any race.

**Households by Family or Nonfamily Type<sup>1,3</sup>**

	City		County	
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total households	1,686	1,714	4,597	4,512
Family households <sup>a,b</sup>	59.8%	57.7%	63.3%	60.8%
Married couple family <sup>b</sup>	46.1%	43.5%	51.5%	48.0%
With own children	17.3%	14.6%	17.3%	14.7%
Other family <sup>c</sup>	13.7%	14.9%	11.8%	12.8%
Male householder <sup>c</sup>	4.4%	5.4%	4.4%	4.8%
With own children	2.5%	3.4%	2.7%	2.7%
Female householder <sup>c</sup>	9.3%	9.5%	7.4%	8.0%
With own children	5.9%	5.8%	5.0%	4.7%
Nonfamily households <sup>d</sup>	40.2%	42.3%	36.7%	39.2%
Male living alone	14.4%	16.6%	14.1%	16.4%
Female living alone	19.6%	19.2%	17.5%	17.3%

**Households by Couple or Non-couple Type<sup>1,3</sup>**

	City		County	
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total households	1,686	1,714	4,597	4,512
Married couple <sup>b</sup>	46.1%	43.5%	51.5%	48.0%
Cohabiting couple <sup>b,f</sup>	NA <sup>e</sup>	6.5%	NA <sup>e</sup>	6.1%
Male householder <sup>g</sup>	NA <sup>e</sup>	22.5%	NA <sup>e</sup>	21.3%
Female householder <sup>g</sup>	NA <sup>e</sup>	28.0%	NA <sup>e</sup>	24.5%

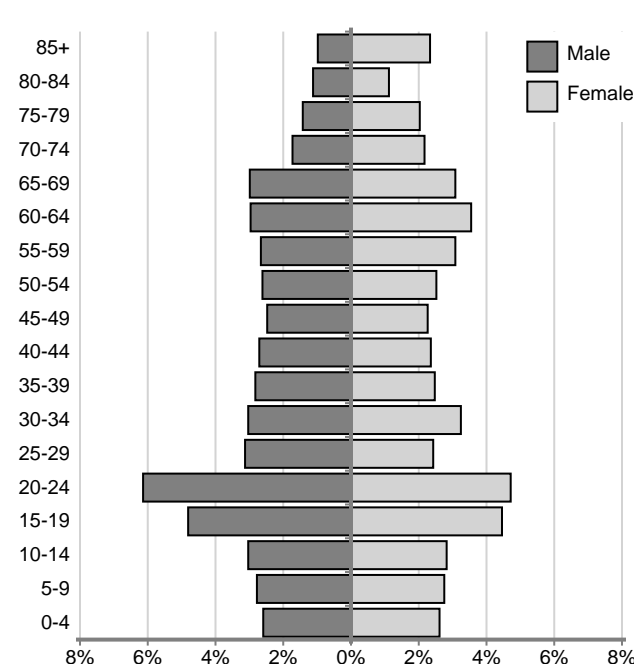
<sup>a</sup>Householder and at least one other person related to the householder. <sup>b</sup>For 2020 includes same-sex couples. <sup>c</sup>No spouse present, but at least one relative present. <sup>d</sup>In 2010 included same-sex couples whether married or not (if no relatives present). <sup>e</sup>2010 not comparable with 2020. <sup>f</sup>For 2020 householder has an unmarried partner. <sup>g</sup>For 2020 no spouse or partner present, but relatives, nonrelatives may be present or householder may be living alone.

**Percentage of Population by Age<sup>1</sup>**

Age Groups	City		County	
	2010	2020	2010	2020
17 or younger	20.5%	20.2%	21.7%	20.7%
0 - 4	4.8%	5.2%	5.5%	5.1%
5 - 9	5.3%	5.5%	6.0%	6.0%
10 - 14	6.3%	5.9%	6.2%	6.0%
15 - 17	4.1%	3.6%	4.0%	3.6%
18 - 24	16.3%	16.6%	9.5%	10.2%
25 - 44	20.2%	22.3%	20.5%	21.6%
45 - 64	26.4%	22%	29.0%	25.1%
65 or older	16.5%	19.0%	19.3%	22.3%
65 - 84	13%	15.7%	15.5%	18.9%
85 or older	3.5%	3.3%	3.8%	3.5%
Median <sup>4</sup> Age (years)	38.6	36.2	43.5	42.3
Age Dependency <sup>a, 5</sup>	58.8	64.4	69.4	75.6
Old-Age	26.2	31.2	32.7	39.2
Child	32.6	33.2	36.7	36.4

<sup>a</sup>Age Dependency Ratio

**Forest City, Iowa Population Pyramid,<sup>a</sup> 2020<sup>1</sup>**



<sup>a</sup>Each bar represents the percentage that an age-sex group comprises of the total population.

## Socioeconomic Profile

## Forest City, Iowa

The median household income in Forest City is less than the median household income of Winnebago County. The median value of owner-occupied housing units is higher in Forest City than for Winnebago County. There is a higher percentage of vacant housing units in Forest City than there is for Winnebago County. Many housing units in Forest City were built between 1960 to 1979. There is a lower percentage of individuals 25 and older with a Bachelor's degree or higher in Forest City compared to Winnebago County.

**Median Household and Per Capita Income, 2018-2022<sup>2</sup>**

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Households	1,580	+/- 125	4,511	+/- 137
Less than \$34,999	23.0%	+/- 3.7%	25.9%	+/- 2.9%
\$35,000 To \$49,999	14.8%	+/- 5.0%	13.4%	+/- 2.3%
\$50,000 To \$99,999	39.1%	+/- 3.5%	33.9%	+/- 2.5%
\$100,000 Or More	23.2%	+/- 3.1%	26.8%	+/- 2.4%
Median <sup>4</sup> Household Income	\$58,060	+/- \$6,820	\$62,853	+/- \$9,365
Median Family Income	\$77,105	+/- \$19,158	\$86,098	+/- \$5,162
Per Capita Income	\$31,414	+/- \$4,962	\$34,966	+/- \$2,631

**Housing Characteristics, 2018-2022<sup>2</sup>**

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Units	1,827	+/- 139	5,089	+/- 24
Vacant	13.5%	+/- 5.2%	11.4%	+/- 2.6%
Occupied	86.5%	+/- 5.2%	88.6%	+/- 2.6%
Occupied <sup>a</sup>	1,580	+/- 125	4,511	+/- 137
Owner	71.9%	+/- 5.7%	75.4%	+/- 3.6%
Renter	28.1%	+/- 5.7%	24.6%	+/- 3.6%
Rent <sup>b</sup>	\$687	+/- \$50	\$669	+/- \$37
Value <sup>c</sup>	\$125,200	+/- \$16,802	\$121,700	+/- \$6,808

<sup>a</sup>Occupied Units, <sup>b</sup>Median gross rent of renter-occupied units, <sup>c</sup>Median value of owner-occupied units

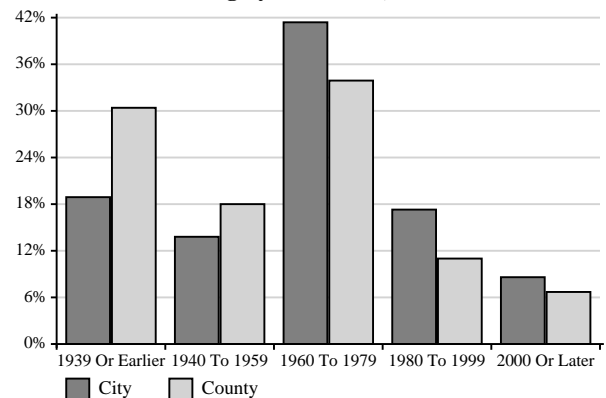
**Educational Attainment, 2018-2022<sup>2</sup>**

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population 25 and older	2,440	+/-179	7,203	+/-50
High School Graduate or Higher	93.0%	+/-2.0%	94.5%	+/-1.1%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	25.5%	+/-5.4%	25.9%	+/-3%

\*MOE = the margin of error for American Community Survey estimates<sup>2</sup> 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.

\*\*MOE is high, use county estimate.

**Percent Housing by Year Built, 2018-2022<sup>2</sup>**



In Forest City 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 24.5% of occupations of the civilian employed population in the city.

**Occupation of the Civilian Employed Population, 2018-2022<sup>2</sup>**

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	2,237	+/- 206	5,495	+/- 220
Management, business, science, and arts	30.1%	+/- 7.3%	32.9%	+/- 4.3%
Service	16.1%	+/- 4.5%	13.9%	+/- 2.4%
Sales and office	21.1%	+/- 5.1%	19.9%	+/- 2.8%
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance	8.3%	+/- 3.5%	10.6%	+/- 2.0%
Production, transportation, and material moving	24.5%	+/- 7.1%	22.7%	+/- 4.0%

## Socioeconomic Profile

## Forest City, Iowa

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

**Median Employment Earnings, 2018-2022<sup>2</sup>**

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population 16+ <sup>a</sup>	2,477	+/- 191	6,000	+/- 212
Median Earnings	\$36,563	+/- \$36	\$38,712	+/- \$2,098
Female	\$38,247	+/- \$3,702	\$36,015	+/- \$2,356
Female, full time <sup>b</sup>	\$46,305	+/- \$2,056	\$45,720	+/- \$1,881
Male	\$34,595	+/- \$7,242	\$41,820	+/- \$3,796
Male, full time <sup>b</sup>	\$47,958	+/- \$3,211	\$52,442	+/- \$4,751

<sup>a</sup> with earnings, <sup>b</sup> year round, \*\*MOE is high, use county estimate.

**Disability Status and Health Insurance Coverage of the Civilian Noninstitutionalized Population, 2018-2022<sup>2</sup>**

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population <sup>a</sup>	4,127	+/-213	10,492	+/-22
With a disability <sup>b</sup>	10.9%	+/-2.7%	11.7%	+/-1.7%
With Health Insurance	96.3%	+/-2.0%	96.6%	+/-1.0%
With Private <sup>c</sup> Coverage	74.9%	+/-5.2%	78.0%	+/-3.3%
With Public <sup>d</sup> Coverage	34.6%	+/-5.4%	36.7%	+/-3.0%
No Health Insurance	**%	+/-**%	3.4%	+/-1.0%

<sup>a</sup>Civilian Noninstitutionalized Population, <sup>b</sup>limitations of activities or inability for full participation, <sup>c</sup>provided by employer, union, bought by individual, and some military plans, <sup>d</sup>includes Medicare, Medicaid, VA Health Care, children's CHIP, and some state plans, \*\*MOE is high, use county estimate.

\*MOE = the margin of error for American Community Survey estimates<sup>2</sup> 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.

**Employment Status, 2018-2022<sup>2</sup>**

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population 16+	3,419	+/- 175	8,726	+/- 61
in labor force	67.0%	+/- 4.8%	64.6%	+/- 2.7%
not in labor force	33.0%	+/- 4.8%	35.4%	+/- 2.7%
Civilian labor force	2,292	+/- 203	5,638	+/- 230
Unemployed	2.4%	+/- 2.1%	2.5%	+/- 1.3%

\*\*MOE is high, use county estimate.

**Individuals and Families Below Poverty Level, 2018-2022<sup>2</sup>**

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Population <sup>a</sup>	3,693	+/-213	10,048	+/-24
Below poverty	7.9%	+/-3.3%	7.8%	+/-1.6%
17 and under	**%	+/-**%	7.5%	+/-3.4%
18 - 64	6.9%	+/-3.2%	8.2%	+/-2.0%
65+	**%	+/-**%	7.0%	+/-2.3%
All Families	**%	+/-**%	5.1%	+/-1.9%
with children	**%	+/-**%	9.4%	+/-4.3%
Married Couple	**%	+/-**%	**%	+/-**%
with children	**%	+/-**%	**%	+/-**%
Female HH <sup>b</sup>	**%	+/-**%	**%	+/-**%
with children	**%	+/-**%	**%	+/-**%

<sup>a</sup> for whom poverty status is determined, <sup>b</sup> female householder, no husband present, \*\*MOE is high, use county estimate.

### Notes and Source Information:

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau; Decennial Censuses 1940 - 2020

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey 2018-2022

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> Median is the middle value of a distribution.

<sup>5</sup> 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.

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