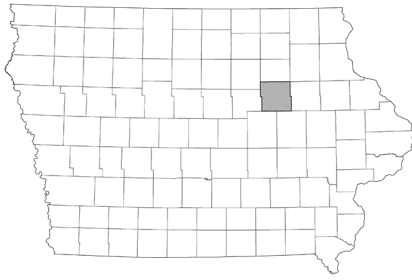# Data for Decision Makers

Black Hawk County
County Profile

report created: 12/13/2024

Population profile

Black Hawk County is a metropolitan county in northeast Iowa. It is composed of eleven incorporated communities and their surrounding rural areas. From 2010 to 2020, Black Hawk County's population increased by 0.04% while the state's population increased by 4.73%.
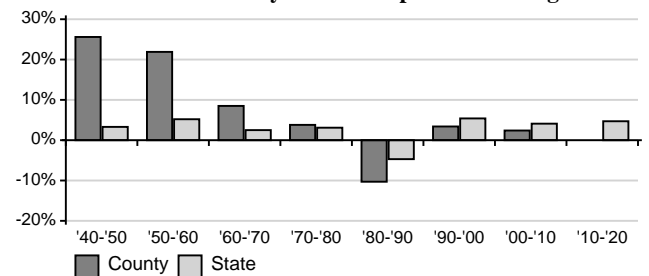
Total Population[1]

Totals	2000	2010	2020
Black Hawk County	**128,012**	**131,090**	**131,144**
Male Total	61,458	63,708	64,120
Female Total	66,554	67,382	67,024
City			
Cedar Falls	36,145	39,260	40,713
Dunkerton	749	852	842
Elk Run Heights	1,052	1,117	1,069
Evansdale	4,526	4,751	4,561
Gilbertville	767	712	794
Hudson	2,117	2,282	2,546
Janesville[†]	829	930	1,034
Jesup[†]	2,212	2,520	2,508
La Porte City	2,275	2,285	2,284
Raymond	537	788	759
Waterloo	68,747	68,406	67,314
State Total	2,926,324	3,046,355	3,190,369

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

Neighboring Counties - Percent Population Change[1]

County	'90-'00	'00-'10	'10-'20
Benton, IA	12.84%	3.03%	-1.92%
Black Hawk, IA	**3.40%**	**2.40%**	**0.04%**
Bremer, IA	2.24%	4.08%	2.93%
Buchanan, IA	1.19%	-0.64%	-1.88%
Butler, IA	-2.71%	-2.86%	-3.59%
Fayette, IA	0.76%	-5.13%	-6.57%
Grundy, IA	2.83%	0.68%	-1.00%
Tama, IA	3.93%	-1.86%	-3.56%
State of Iowa	5.39%	4.10%	4.73%

Black Hawk County Percent Population Change[1]

Regional Director	**County Office**	
Quinton "Q" Richardson	Sheila Wettleson	
3420 University Ave., Ste B	3420 University Ave., Ste B	
Waterloo, IA 50701	Waterloo, IA 50701	
qrich@iastate.edu	sheilaw@iastate.edu	
319-234-6811	319-234-6811	
https://indicators.extension.iastate.edu		

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach
Community and Economic Development

As with the other 98 counties in the state, Black Hawk County's population is predominantly white. The percentage of the population of Hispanic origin increased between 2010 and 2020. In 2020, Black Hawk County had a lower percentage of those 17 or younger than the state. New household relationship categories were reported for 2020 that are not comparable with 2010[3].

Percentage of Population by Race/Hispanic Origin[1]

Race Groups	County 2010	County 2020	State 2010	State 2020
One race only	97.7%	94.6%	98.2%	94.4%
White	85.6%	78.4%	91.3%	84.5%
White alone, not Hispanic	83.9%	77.1%	88.7%	82.7%
Black or African American	8.9%	10.4%	2.9%	4.1%
Asian	1.3%	2.6%	1.7%	2.4%
American Indian	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%	0.5%
Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander	0.2%	0.7%	0.1%	0.2%
Other	1.6%	2.1%	1.8%	2.8%
Two or more races	2.3%	5.4%	1.8%	5.6%
Hispanic origin[a]	3.7%	4.9%	5.0%	6.8%

[a]*Hispanics can be of any race.*

Households by Family or Nonfamily Type[1,3]

	County 2010	County 2020	State 2010	State 2020
Total households	52,470	54,223	1,221,576	1,288,560
Family households[a,b]	61.2%	59.1%	64.7%	63.0%
Married couple family[b]	45.5%	43.0%	51.2%	48.5%
With own children	16.7%	15.5%	20.0%	18.2%
Other family[c]	15.7%	16.1%	13.5%	14.4%
Male householder[c]	4.3%	4.8%	4.2%	4.9%
With own children	2.3%	2.5%	2.5%	2.7%
Female householder[c]	11.5%	11.3%	9.3%	9.6%
With own children	7.1%	6.8%	5.9%	5.7%
Nonfamily households[d]	38.8%	40.9%	35.3%	37.0%
Male living alone	12.7%	15.1%	12.8%	14.2%
Female living alone	16.1%	16.8%	15.7%	15.8%

Households by Couple or Non-couple Type[1,3]

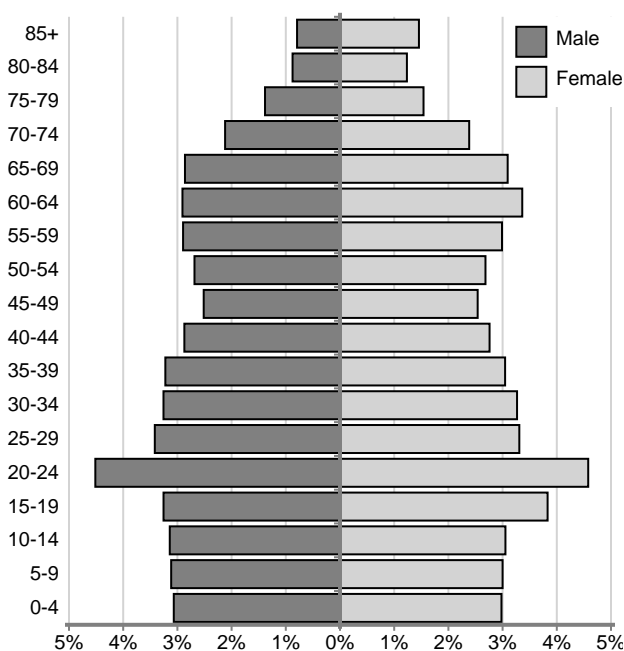|	County 2010	County 2020	State 2010	State 2020
Total households	52,470	54,223	1,221,576	1,288,560
Married couple[b]	45.5%	43.0%	51.2%	48.5%
Cohabiting couple[b,f]	NA[e]	7.6%	NA[e]	7.1%
Male householder[g]	NA[e]	21.1%	NA[e]	19.5%
Female householder[g]	NA[e]	28.3%	NA[e]	24.9%

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

Percentage of Population by Age[1]

Age Groups	County 2010	County 2020	State 2010	State 2020
17 or younger	21.7%	21.8%	23.9%	23.2%
0 - 4	6.5%	6.0%	6.6%	6.0%
5 - 9	6.0%	6.1%	6.6%	6.5%
10 - 14	5.8%	6.2%	6.6%	6.8%
15 -17	3.4%	3.5%	4.1%	3.9%
18 - 24	15.6%	12.7%	10.0%	9.8%
25 - 44	24.0%	25.1%	24.5%	24.6%
45 - 64	24.8%	22.7%	26.7%	24.5%
65 or older	13.8%	17.7%	14.9%	18.0%
65 - 84	11.5%	15.5%	12.4%	15.6%
85 or older	2.3%	2.2%	2.5%	2.4%
Median[4] age (years)	34.4	36.8	38.1	38.6
Age dependency[a,5]	55.1	65.3	63.4	69.9
Old-Age	21.4	29.3	24.3	30.6
Child	33.7	36.0	39.1	39.4

[a]*Age Dependency Ratio.*

Black Hawk County Population Pyramid[a], 2020[1]

[a]*Each bar represents the percentage that each age-sex group comprises of the total population.*

The median household income in Black Hawk County is less than the median household income of the state. More households in Black Hawk County are in the $50,000 to $99,999 household income group while more of Iowa households are in the $100,000 or more household income group. The median value of owner-occupied housing can vary among counties. The median value of owner-occupied housing units is lower in Black Hawk County than for the state. There is a lower percentage of vacant housing units in Black Hawk County than there is for the state. Many housing units in Black Hawk County were built between 1960 to 1979. Black Hawk County has a lower percentage of college graduates than does the state.

Median[4] Household and Per Capita Income, 2018-2022[2]

	County		State	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total households	53,691	+/- 531	1,290,139	+/- 4,032
Less than $14,999	10.0%	+/- 1.2%	7.8%	+/- 0.4%
$15,000 to $34,999	17.3%	+/- 1.3%	15.2%	+/- 0.6%
$35,000 to $49,999	12.8%	+/- 1.1%	11.9%	+/- 0.2%
$50,000 to $99,999	31.9%	+/- 1.5%	32.2%	+/- 0.6%
$100,000 Or More	28.0%	+/- 1.5%	32.9%	+/- 0.8%
Median[4] household income	$62,329	+/- $2,004	$70,571	+/- $395
Median[4] family income	$83,292	+/- $2,394	$90,921	+/- $579
Per capita income	$35,400	+/- $932	$37,949	+/- $241

Housing Characteristics, 2018-2022[2]

	County		State	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total units	58,599	+/- 81	1,417,064	+/- 977
Vacant	8.4%	+/- 0.9%	9.0%	+/- 0.3%
Occupied	91.6%	+/- 0.9%	91.0%	+/- 0.3%
Occupied[a]	53,691	+/- 531	1,290,139	+/- 4,032
Owner	65.3%	+/- 1.4%	71.5%	+/- 0.3%
Renter	34.7%	+/- 1.4%	28.5%	+/- 0.3%
Median[4] rent[b]	$932	+/- $22	$914	+/- $6
Median value[c]	$172,500	+/- $3,720	$181,600	+/- $1,035

[a]Occupied Units. [b]Median gross rent of renter-occupied units [c]Median value of owner-occupied units.

Educational Attainment, 2018-2022[2]

	County		State	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population 25 and older	82,951	+/-104	2,131,202	+/-967
High school graduate or higher	92.9%	+/-0.7%	93.0%	+/-0.1%
Bachelor's degree or higher	30.0%	+/-1.1%	30.3%	+/-0.3%

MOE = the margin of error for American Community Survey estimates[2] 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.

Percent Housing by Year Built, 2018-2022[2]

In Black Hawk County there is a higher percentage of workers in management, business, science, and arts occupations than any other occupation category while the production, transportation, and material moving occupation category makes up 19.5% of occupations of the civilian employed population in the county.

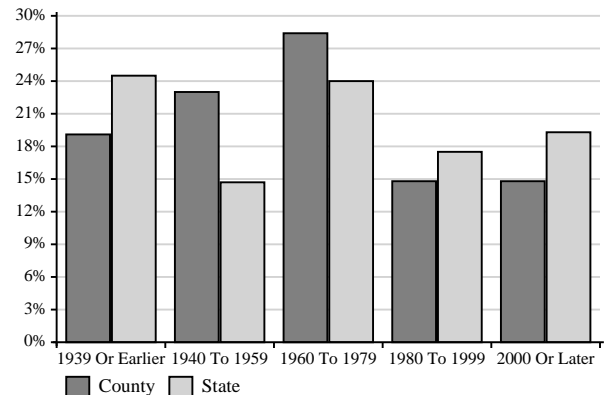### Occupation of the Civilian Employed Population, 2018-2022[2]

	County		State	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	66,619	+/- 1,018	1,627,434	+/- 5,740
Management, business, science, and arts	35.2%	+/- 1.2%	38.1%	+/- 0.3%
Service	18.4%	+/- 1.1%	15.5%	+/- 0.2%
Sales and office	19.5%	+/- 1.0%	19.7%	+/- 0.2%
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance	7.4%	+/- 0.7%	9.5%	+/- 0.2%
Production, transportation, and material moving	19.5%	+/- 1.2%	17.2%	+/- 0.2%

Socioeconomic Profile — Black Hawk County

Black Hawk County has a lower proportion of the population age 16 or older in the labor force than the state. A portion of those who are not in the labor force are people who are retired. The percent unemployed in Black Hawk County is higher than that for the state overall. Earnings data are provided for the population 16 and over who have earnings. Median[4] earnings in Black Hawk County tend to be lower than the median earnings for the state. There is a higher percentage of families in Black Hawk County below poverty level than for the state. Families with children tend to have a higher rate of poverty than families without children.

Employment Status, 2018-2022[2]

	County Estimate	County MOE*	State Estimate	State MOE*
Population 16+	105,716	+/- 205	2,544,719	+/- 1,266
In labor force	66.5%	+/- 0.9%	66.6%	+/- 0.2%
Not in labor force	33.5%	+/- 0.9%	33.4%	+/- 0.2%
Civilian labor force	70,293	+/- 998	1,692,129	+/- 5,407
Unemployed	5.2%	+/- 0.7%	3.8%	+/- 0.1%

Median[4] Employment Earnings, 2018-2022[2]

	County Estimate	County MOE*	State Estimate	State MOE*
Population 16+ [a]	74,097	+/- 923	1,799,851	+/- 5,338
Median earnings	$35,412	+/- $752	$40,905	+/- $219
Female	$28,225	+/- $1,231	$33,724	+/- $250
Male	$41,962	+/- $1,208	$48,115	+/- $407
Female, full time[b]	$45,844	+/- $1,160	$47,128	+/- $238
Male, full time[b]	$56,816	+/- $2,051	$59,875	+/- $356

[a]with earnings. [b]year round.

Individuals Below Poverty Level by Race, 2018-2022[2]

	County Estimate	County MOE*	State Estimate	State MOE*
Total population[a]	126,174	+/-259	3,088,999	+/-950
Percent below	15.7%	+/-0.2%	11.1%	+/-0.2%
White alone	13.6%	+/-1%	9.7%	+/-0.2%
Black/African American alone	31.7%	+/-5.9%	30.5%	+/-1.9%
Asian/Pacific Islander alone	**%	+/-**%	13.6%	+/-1.4%
American Indian alone	**%	+/-**%	27.6%	+/-4%
Hawaiian alone	**%	+/-**%	33.1%	+/-8.5%
Other race alone	**%	+/-**%	16.6%	+/-2.3%
Two or more races	14.6%	+/-4.1%	17.6%	+/-1.3%
Hispanic origin[b]	22.6%	+/-5.4%	17.4%	+/-1.1%

[a]for whom poverty status is determined, [b]Hispanics can be of any race. **MOE is high, use state estimate.

*MOE = the margin of error for American Community Survey estimates[2] 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.

Individuals and Families Below Poverty Level, 2018-2022[2]

	County Estimate	County MOE*	State Estimate	State MOE*
Total population[a]	126,174	+/-259	3,088,999	+/-950
Below poverty	15.7%	+/-0.2%	11.1%	+/-0.2%
17 and under	18.1%	+/-2.8%	13%	+/-0.4%
18 - 64	17.3%	+/-1.2%	11.4%	+/-0.2%
65+	7.1%	+/-1.3%	7.7%	+/-0.2%
All families	9.5%	+/-1.3%	7%	+/-0.2%
With children	17%	+/-2.5%	11.5%	+/-0.4%
Married couple	3.1%	+/-0.9%	3.2%	+/-0.1%
With children	4%	+/-1.6%	4.1%	+/-0.3%
Female HH[b]	32.9%	+/-4.8%	25.4%	+/-1%
With children	43.8%	+/-6.8%	32.4%	+/-1.4%

[a]for whom poverty status is determined, [b]female householder, no spouse present, **MOE is high. Use state estimate.

Community and Economic Development   Data for Decision Makers