Data for Decision Makers



Palo, Iowa **City Profile**

report created: 12/17/2024

Population profile

The 2020 population for Palo is 1,407. Between 2010 and 2020 the population increased by 37.1%. The City of Palo is in Linn County. Linn County saw a 9.0% population increase between 2010 and 2020.

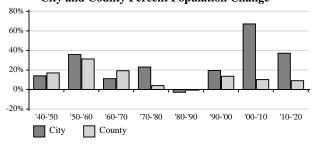
Linn County Cities - Total Population ¹							
City	2000	2010	2020				
Palo	614	1,026	1,407				
Male Total	301	529	740				
Female Total	313	497	667				
Alburnett	559	673	675				
Bertram	681	294	269				
Cedar Rapids	120,758	126,326	137,710				
Center Point	2,007	2,421	2,579				
Central City	1,157	1,257	1,264				
Coggon	745	658	701				
Ely	1,149	1,776	2,328				
Fairfax	889	2,123	2,828				
Hiawatha	6,480	7,024	7,183				
Lisbon	1,898	2,152	2,233				
Marion	26,294	34,768	41,535				
Mount Vernon	3,390	4,506	4,527				
Prairieburg	175	178	160				
Robins	1,806	3,142	3,353				
Springville	1,091	1,074	1,154				
Walford [†]	1,224	1,463	1,366				
Walker	750	791	688				
Linn County Total	191,701	211,226	230,299				
State of Iowa Total	2,926,324	3,046,355	3,190,369				

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

Neighboring Cities - Percent Population Change

	'90-'00	'00-'10	'10-'20
Atkins	53.4%	70.9%	23.1%
Center Point	18.5%	20.6%	6.5%
Hiawatha	30.0%	8.4%	2.3%
Robins	106.4%	74.0%	6.7%
Shellsburg	22.6%	4.8%	-2.2%
Palo	19.5%	67.1%	37.1%
Linn County	13.6%	10.2%	9.0%
State of Iowa	5.4%	4.1%	4.7%

City and County Percent Population Change¹



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Palo's population is predominantly White. The City of Palo, compared to Linn County, had a higher 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 2010.³

Percentage of Population by Race/Hispanic Origin¹

	City		Co	unty
Race Groups	2010	2020	2010	2020
One race only	98.4%	96.2%	97.7%	94.0%
White	97.6%	94.0%	90.8%	82.8%
White alone, not Hispanic	96.3%	93.0%	89.3%	81.6%
Black or African American	0.5%	1.1%	4.0%	7.1%
Asian	0.3%	0.6%	1.8%	2.3%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.1%	0.0%	0.3%	0.2%
Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.2%
Other	0.0%	0.6%	0.7%	1.3%
Two or more races	1.6%	3.8%	2.3%	6.0%
Hispanic origin ^a	1.4%	2.1%	2.6%	3.9%

^a Hispanics can be of any race.

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

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		City	Co	unty
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total households	358	482	86,134	94,751
Family households ^{a,b}	81.6%	68.8%	62.9%	61.8%
Married couple family ^b	69.6%	59.4%	48.8%	46.2%
With own children	38.5%	34.9%	20.6%	18.0%
Other family ^c	12.0%	14.7%	14.0%	15.6%
Male householder ^c	5.6%	7.9%	4.1%	5.1%
With own children	4.2%	5.0%	2.5%	2.8%
Female householder ^c	6.4%	6.8%	9.9%	10.5%
With own children	3.6%	3.5%	6.5%	6.3%
Nonfamily households ^d	18.4%	31.3%	37.1%	38.2%
Male living alone	9.2%	9.5%	13.4%	14.4%
Female living alone	4.5%	4.4%	15.8%	16.5%

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

		City		ounty
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total households	358	482	86,134	94,751
Married couple ^b	69.6%	59.4%	48.8%	46.2%
Cohabiting couple ^{b,f}	NA ^e	11.2%	NA ^e	7.8%
Male householder g	NA ^e	14.3%	NA^e	19.7%
Female householder g	NA ^e	10.4%	NA ^e	26.3%

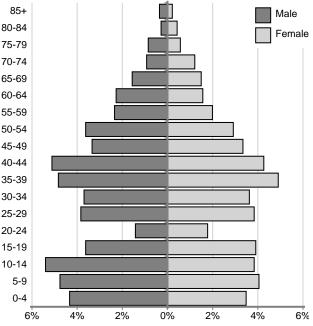
^aHouseholder and at least one other person related to the householder. ^bFor 2020 includes same-sex couples. ^cNo spouse present, but at least one relative present. ^dIn 2010 included same-sex couples whether married or not (if no relatives present). ^e2010 not comparable with 2020. ^fFor 2020 householder 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	32.3%	31.1%	24.5%	23.2%
0 - 4	10%	7.8%	6.7%	6.0%
5 - 9	9.9%	8.8%	6.9%	6.4%
10 - 14	7.8%	9.2%	6.8%	6.8%
15 - 17	4.6%	5.3%	4.1%	4%
18 - 24	4.9%	5.4%	9.8%	9.5%
25 - 44	34%	34.1%	26.8%	26.3%
45 - 64	22%	21.3%	25.9%	24.5%
65 or older	6.8%	7.9%	13.0%	16.5%
65 - 84	6.2%	7.3%	11%	14.4%
85 or older	0.6%	0.6%	2.0%	2.2%
Median ⁴ Age (years)	32.4	34.3	36.5	38.0
Age Dependency ^{a, 5}	64.2	64.1	60.1	65.8
Old-Age	11.2	13.0	20.8	27.4
Child	53.0	51.2	39.3	38.5

^aAge Dependency Ratio

Palo, Iowa Population Pyramid, 2020



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

Socioeconomic Profile

The median household income in Palo is greater than the median household income of Linn County. The median value of owner-occupied housing units is higher in Palo than for Linn County. There is a lower percentage of vacant housing units in Palo than there is for Linn County. Many housing units in Palo were built in 2000 or later. There is a lower percentage of individuals 25 and older with a Bachelor's degree or higher in Palo compared to Linn County.

Median Household and Per Capita Income, 2018-2022²

	City		С	ounty
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Households	422	+/- 73	94,291	+/- 635
Less than \$34,999	6.7%	+/- 3.5%	20.7%	+/- 1.5%
\$35,000 To \$49,999	2.1%	+/- 2.2%	11.7%	+/- 0.7%
\$50,000 To \$99,999	46.2%	+/- 4.1%	32.4%	+/- 1.3%
\$100,000 Or More	45.0%	+/- 4.2%	35.3%	+/- 1.6%
Median ⁴ Household Income	\$92,368	+/- \$12,553	\$75,457	+/- \$1,426
Median Family Income	\$94,063	+/- \$14,305	\$96,369	+/- \$2,755
Per Capita Income	\$38,505	+/- \$4,134	\$41,446	+/- \$1,147

Educational Attainment, 2018-2022²

	C	City	County		
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*	
Population 25 and older	770	+/-138	155,869	+/-62	
High School Graduate or Higher	97.8%	+/-2.2%	95%	+/-0.5%	
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	23.6%	+/-6.9%	34.6%	+/-1.2%	

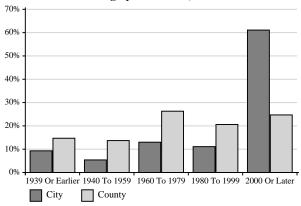
^{*}MOE = the margin of error for American Community Survey estimates² which is a numerical value that when added to or subtracted from the point estimate value gives the range of a 90% confidence interval around the estimate.

Housing Characteristics, 2018-2022²

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		City	Co	ounty
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Units	430	+/- 73	101,214	+/- 135
Vacant	1.9%	+/- 2.7%	6.8%	+/- 0.6%
Occupied	98.1%	+/- 2.7%	93.2%	+/- 0.6%
Occupied ^a	422	+/- 73	94,291	+/- 635
Owner	93.8%	+/- 4.9%	74.1%	+/- 0.9%
Renter	6.2%	+/- 4.9%	25.9%	+/- 0.9%
Rent ^b	\$1536	+/- \$463	\$878	+/- \$24
Value ^c	\$245,400	+/-\$17,308	\$188,800	+/-\$3,789

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

Percent Housing by Year Built, 2018-2022²



In Palo 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 12.6% 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	667	+/- 142	121,318	+/- 1,374
Management, business, science, and arts	34.3%	+/- 7.4%	40.2%	+/- 1.3%
Service	10.9%	+/- 4.9%	14.6%	+/- 0.9%
Sales and office	26.8%	+/- 6.6%	22.0%	+/- 1.2%
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance	15.3%	+/- 6.2%	7.7%	+/- 0.6%
Production, transportation, and material moving	12.6%	+/- 5.2%	15.5%	+/- 0.8%

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

Palo has a higher proportion of the population age 16 or older in the labor force than Linn 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 Palo tend to be higher than the median earnings for Linn 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	706	+/- 149	131,995	+/- 1,143
Median Earnings	\$53,438	+/- \$53	\$43,575	+/- \$1,171
Female	\$47,039	+/- \$4,246	\$36,715	+/- \$1,100
Female, full time ^b	\$49,444	+/- \$9,740	\$49,342	+/- \$1,571
Male	\$64,271	+/- \$11,402	\$51,597	+/- \$1,325
Male, full time ^b	\$69,118	+/- \$7,258	\$64,946	+/- \$1,629

^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		Со	ounty
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population ^a	1,162	+/-230	227,377	+/-60
With a disability ^b	7.6%	+/-3.3%	10.7%	+/-0.6%
With Health Insurance	98.1%	+/-1.8%	96.2%	+/-0.4%
With Private ^c Coverage	87.7%	+/-5.1%	75.6%	+/-1.0%
With Public ^d Coverage	17.1%	+/-7.4%	33.4%	+/-0.9%
No Health Insurance	**%	+/-**%	3.8%	+/-0.4%

^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+	855	+/- 156	183,450	+/- 335
in labor force	80.6%	+/- 7.2%	68.8%	+/- 0.7%
not in labor force	19.4%	+/- 7.2%	31.2%	+/- 0.7%
Civilian labor force	689	+/- 148	126,128	+/- 1,242
Unemployed	3.2%	+/- 2.7%	3.8%	+/- 0.5%

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

Individuals and Families Below Poverty Level, 2018-2022²

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	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Population ^a	1,153	+/-226	224,018	+/-388
Below poverty	**%	+/-**%	9.5%	+/-0.7%
17 and under	**%	+/-**%	11.7%	+/-1.6%
18 - 64	**%	+/-**%	9.4%	+/-0.8%
65+	**%	+/-**%	6.6%	+/-1.0%
All Families	**%	+/-**%	6.4%	+/-0.7%
with children	**%	+/-**%	9.9%	+/-1.4%
Married Couple	**%	+/-**%	2.8%	+/-0.6%
with children	**%	+/-**%	2.9%	+/-0.9%
Female HH ^b	**%	+/-**%	21.5%	+/-3.8%
with children	**%	+/-**%	27.3%	+/-5.2%

^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.
- 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.