Data for Decision Makers



Alta Vista, Iowa City Profile

report created: 12/17/2024

Population profile

The 2020 population for Alta Vista is 227. Between 2010 and 2020 the population decreased by 14.7%. The City of Alta Vista is in Chickasaw County. Chickasaw County saw a 3.4% population decrease between 2010 and 2020. Alta Vista's population is predominantly White.

Total Population¹

City	2000	2010	2020
		2010	
Alta Vista [†]	286	266	227
Male Total	143	128	118
Female Total	143	138	109
Chickasaw County Total	13,095	12,439	12,012
State of Iowa Total	2,926,324	3,046,355	3,190,369

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

Percentage of Population by Race/Hispanic Origin¹

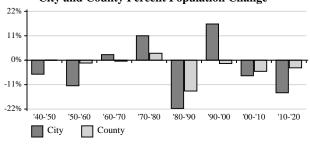
	City		Co	County	
Race Groups	2010	2020	2010	2020	
One race only	99.6%	96.0%	99.5%	96.3%	
White	99.6%	91.6%	97.4%	93.7%	
White alone, not Hispanic	98.5%	91.2%	96.9%	93.0%	
Black or African American	0.0%	2.2%	0.3%	0.7%	
Asian	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.2%	
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.0%	0.4%	0.1%	0.2%	
Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	
Other	0.0%	1.8%	1.4%	1.5%	
Two or more races	0.4%	4.0%	0.5%	3.7%	
Hispanic origin ^a	1.1%	2.2%	2.2%	4.0%	

^a Hispanics can be of any race.

Neighboring Cities - Percent Population Change

	'90-'00	'00-'10	'10-'20
Bassett	0.0%	-10.8%	-31.8%
Colwell	-19.1%	-3.9%	-24.7%
Elma	-8.4%	-8.7%	-7.5%
New Hampton	0.9%	-3.3%	-2.2%
North Washington	10.3%	-0.8%	-4.3%
Alta Vista	16.3%	-7.0%	-14.7%
Chickasaw County	-1.5%	5%	-3.4%
State of Iowa	5.4%	4.1%	4.7%

City and County Percent Population Change¹



Regional Director Bruce Arendt 2316 Sweet Parkway Rd. Decorah, IA 52101

bparendt@iastate.edu 563-382-2949

Amanda Tupper 115 N. Broadway Ave. New Hampton, IA 50659 atupper@iastate.edu 641-394-2174

County Office

https://indicators.extension.iastate.edu

The City of Alta Vista, compared to Chickasaw 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 2010.³

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

	-		_	
	(City	Co	unty
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total Households	116	99	5,204	5,022
Family Households ^{a,b}	56.0%	64.1%	67.1%	65.0%
Married couple family ^b	37.9%	51.5%	56.4%	53.4%
With own children	16.4%	12.1%	20.5%	17.8%
Other family ^c	18.1%	14.1%	10.6%	11.6%
Male householder ^c	6.9%	6.1%	4.3%	5.2%
With own children	4.3%	5.1%	2.7%	3.2%
Female householder ^c	11.2%	8.1%	6.3%	6.3%
With own children	8.6%	5.1%	3.9%	3.7%
Nonfamily households ^d	44.0%	35.9%	32.9%	35.0%
Male living alone	19.8%	19.2%	13.8%	15.4%
Female living alone	18.1%	18.2%	15.0%	14.9%

^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).

Housing Characteristics¹

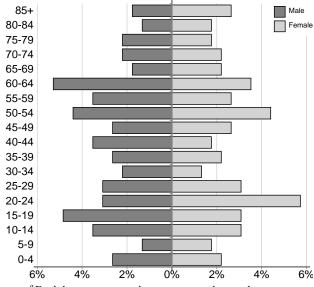
		City		County	
	2010	2020	2010	2020	
Total Units	132	126	5,679	5,534	
Vacant	12.1%	21.4%	8.4%	9.3%	
Occupied	87.9%	78.6%	91.6%	90.7%	
Occupied Units	116	99	5,204	5,022	
Owner Occupied	75.9%	68.7%	81.0%	79.8%	
Renter Occupied	24.1%	31.3%	19.0%	20.2%	

Percentage of Population by Age¹

	City		County	
Age Groups	2010	2020	2010	2020
17 or younger	28.9%	19.8%	24.4%	23.6%
18 - 44	32.7%	31.2%	27.2%	27.4%
45 - 64	17.7%	29.1%	29.3%	27.2%
65 or older	20.7%	19.8%	19.1%	21.8%
Median ⁴ Age (years)	38.8	43.8	43.7	43.8
Age Dependency ^{a, 5}	98.4	65.7	77.0	83.2
Old-Age	41.1	32.8	33.8	39.9
Child	57.3	32.8	43.2	43.2

^aAge Dependency Ratio

Alta Vista, Iowa Population Pyramid, a 20201



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

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.

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.