Data for Decision Makers



Spirit Lake, Iowa City Profile

report created: 12/17/2024

Population profile

The 2020 population for Spirit Lake is 5,439. Between 2010 and 2020 the population increased by 12.4%. The City of Spirit Lake is in Dickinson County. Dickinson County saw a 6.2% population increase between 2010 and 2020.

Dickinson County Cities - Total Population¹

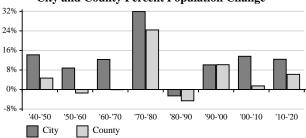
Dickinson County Cities - Total Population							
City	2000	2010	2020				
Spirit Lake	4,261	4,840	5,439				
Male Total	1,959	2,282	2,603				
Female Total	2,302	2,558	2,836				
Arnolds Park	1,162	1,126	1,110				
Lake Park	1,023	1,105	1,167				
Milford	2,474	2,898	3,321				
Okoboji	820	807	768				
Orleans	583	608	521				
Superior	142	130	132				
Terril	404	367	334				
Wahpeton	462	341	345				
West Okoboji	432	289	308				
Dickinson County Total	16,424	16,667	17,703				
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
Arnolds Park	21.9%	-3.1%	-1.4%
Okoboji	5.8%	-1.6%	-4.8%
Orleans	4.1%	4.3%	-14.3%
Wahpeton	-4.5%	-26.2%	1.2%
West Okoboji	64.3%	-33.1%	6.6%
Spirit Lake	10.1%	13.6%	12.4%
Dickinson County	10.2%	1.5%	6.2%
State of Iowa	5.4%	4.1%	4.7%

City and County Percent Population Change¹



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County Office

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Spirit Lake's population is predominantly White. The City of Spirit Lake, compared to Dickinson 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		unty
Race Groups	2010	2020	2010	2020
One race only	98.9%	96.2%	99.3%	96.8%
White	97.7%	94.2%	98.3%	95.0%
White alone, not Hispanic	96.6%	93.4%	97.5%	94.4%
Black or African American	0.2%	0.6%	0.2%	0.4%
Asian	0.6%	0.5%	0.4%	0.5%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%
Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other	0.1%	0.8%	0.2%	0.8%
Two or more races	1.1%	3.8%	0.7%	3.2%
Hispanic origin ^a	1.3%	2.6%	1.1%	2.3%

^a Hispanics can be of any race.

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

		•	• •	
		City	C	County
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total households	2,157	2,380	7,554	7,976
Family households ^{a,b}	58.8%	59.5%	64.3%	63.2%
Married couple family ^b	47.5%	46.8%	54.6%	52.7%
With own children	19.4%	16.7%	16.1%	14.5%
Other family ^c	11.3%	12.0%	9.7%	10.4%
Male householder ^c	3.7%	4.2%	3.4%	3.4%
With own children	2.3%	2.2%	2.0%	1.7%
Female householder ^c	7.6%	7.8%	6.3%	7.0%
With own children	4.7%	4.8%	3.8%	4.2%
Nonfamily households ^d	41.2%	40.5%	35.7%	36.8%
Male living alone	13.6%	15.3%	13.8%	14.9%
Female living alone	22.9%	19.5%	16.8%	16.6%

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

		City		ounty
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total households	2,157	2,380	7,554	7,976
Married couple ^b	47.5%	46.8%	54.6%	52.7%
Cohabiting couple ^{b,f}	NA ^e	6.6%	NA ^e	6.0%
Male householder g	NA^e	19.7%	NA^e	18.4%
Female householder g	NA ^e	26.5%	NA ^e	22.9%

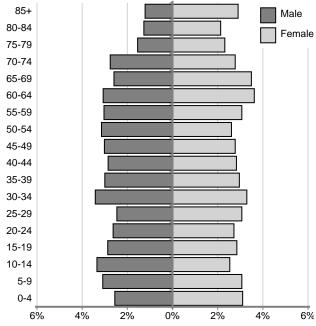
^aHouseholder and at least one other person related to the householder. ^bFor 2020 includes same-sex couples. ^cNo spouse present, but at least one relative present. ^dIn 2010 included same-sex couples whether married or not (if no relatives present). ^e2010 not comparable with 2020. ^fFor 2020 householder 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	23.1%	21.1%	19.4%	19%
0 - 4	6.2%	5.7%	4.9%	4.7%
5 - 9	6.4%	6.2%	5.6%	5.3%
10 - 14	6.6%	5.9%	5.5%	5.6%
15 - 17	3.9%	3.3%	3.4%	3.4%
18 - 24	5.9%	7.8%	5.5%	6.3%
25 - 44	24.7%	23.9%	21.1%	20.6%
45 - 64	26.4%	24.4%	31.8%	26.6%
65 or older	19.9%	23.0%	22.3%	27.5%
65 - 84	14.8%	18.9%	18.8%	24.1%
85 or older	5.1%	4.1%	3.5%	3.4%
Median ⁴ Age (years)	41.9	42.5	48.1	49.1
Age Dependency ^{a, 5}	75.4	78.6	71.4	86.9
Old-Age	34.9	41.0	38.2	51.4
Child	40.5	37.6	33.2	35.5

^aAge Dependency Ratio

Spirit Lake, Iowa Population Pyramid, a 20201



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

Socioeconomic Profile

Spirit Lake, Iowa

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

Median Household and Per Capita Income, 2018-2022²

	City		Co	ounty
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Households	2,537	+/- 162	8,279	+/- 269
Less than \$34,999	24.3%	+/- 3.4%	20.3%	+/- 2.3%
\$35,000 To \$49,999	11.5%	+/- 3.9%	11.5%	+/- 1.8%
\$50,000 To \$99,999	37.0%	+/- 3.3%	35.5%	+/- 2.2%
\$100,000 Or More	27.2%	+/- 3.1%	32.8%	+/- 2.3%
Median ⁴ Household Income	\$70,248	+/- \$12,322	\$72,446	+/- \$4,086
Median Family Income	\$98,346	+/- \$6,411	\$96,296	+/- \$5,617
Per Capita Income	\$39,860	+/- \$4,674	\$45,523	+/- \$2,508

Educational Attainment, 2018-2022²

	(City	County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population 25 and older	3,681	+/-181	13,171	+/-65
High School Graduate or Higher	97.2%	+/-1.9%	96.5%	+/-1.3%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	35.2%	+/-5.1%	32.7%	+/-2.5%

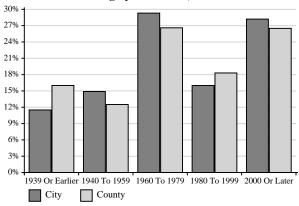
^{*}MOE = the margin of error for American Community Survey estimates² which is a numerical value that when added to or subtracted from the point estimate value gives the range of a 90% confidence interval around the estimate.

Housing Characteristics, 2018-2022²

		City	Co	ounty
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Units	2,834	+/- 187	13,841	+/- 49
Vacant	10.5%	+/- 4.8%	40.2%	+/- 1.9%
Occupied	89.5%	+/- 4.8%	59.8%	+/- 1.9%
Occupied ^a	2,537	+/- 162	8,279	+/- 269
Owner	65.5%	+/- 6.9%	78.4%	+/- 2.8%
Renter	34.5%	+/- 6.9%	21.6%	+/- 2.8%
Rent ^b	\$891	+/- \$147	\$902	+/- \$71
Value ^c	\$196,900	+/-\$17,706	\$236,100	+/-\$9,584

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

Percent Housing by Year Built, 2018-2022²



In Spirit Lake 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 16.0% of occupations of the civilian employed population in the city.

Occupation of the Civilian Employed Population, 2018-2022²

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	2,971	+/- 217	9,372	+/- 311
Management, business, science, and arts	35.6%	+/- 5.5%	33.5%	+/- 3.1%
Service	13.9%	+/- 4.0%	15.4%	+/- 2.1%
Sales and office	21.5%	+/- 6.4%	24.0%	+/- 2.9%
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance	13.0%	+/- 5.7%	9.9%	+/- 1.9%
Production, transportation, and material moving	16.0%	+/- 5.5%	17.1%	+/- 2.2%

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

Socioeconomic Profile

Spirit Lake, Iowa

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

Median Employment Earnings, 2018-2022²

		City	Co	ounty
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population 16+ ^a	3,200	+/- 209	10,439	+/- 283
Median Earnings	\$36,598	+/- \$36	\$38,675	+/- \$2,234
Female	\$33,388	+/- \$3,724	\$33,454	+/- \$1,532
Female, full time ^b	\$45,246	+/- \$11,301	\$46,172	+/- \$1,852
Male	\$45,438	+/- \$6,755	\$44,888	+/- \$3,437
Male, full time ^b	\$57,148	+/- \$4,905	\$58,570	+/- \$3,400

^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		Co	unty
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population ^a	5,296	+/-36	17,493	+/-11
With a disability ^b	15.1%	+/-3.6%	14.9%	+/-1.8%
With Health Insurance	98.8%	+/-1.0%	95.6%	+/-1.1%
With Private ^c Coverage	74.0%	+/-4.6%	70.0%	+/-2.0%
With Public ^d Coverage	38.7%	+/-4.8%	41.2%	+/-2.0%
No Health Insurance	**%	+/-**%	4.4%	+/-1.1%

^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+	4,331	+/- 144	14,770	+/- 60
in labor force	69.4%	+/- 4.4%	64.9%	+/- 2.1%
not in labor force	30.6%	+/- 4.4%	35.1%	+/- 2.1%
Civilian labor force	3,007	+/- 213	9,577	+/- 318
Unemployed	1.2%	+/- 1.3%	2.1%	+/- 1.0%

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

Individuals and Families Below Poverty Level, 2018-2022²

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Population ^a	5,296	+/-36	17,451	+/-33
Below poverty	5.7%	+/-2.7%	6.2%	+/-1.3%
17 and under	**%	+/-**%	6.4%	+/-2.8%
18 - 64	5.1%	+/-2.5%	7.1%	+/-1.8%
65+	**%	+/-**%	4.3%	+/-1.5%
All Families	**%	+/-**%	2.7%	+/-1.1%
with children	**%	+/-**%	**%	+/-**%
Married Couple	**%	+/-**%	**%	+/-**%
with children	**%	+/-**%	**%	+/-**%
Female HH ^b	**%	+/-**%	**%	+/-**%
with children	**%	+/-**%	**%	+/-**%

^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.