Data for Decision Makers



Alden, Iowa City Profile

report created: 12/17/2024

Population profile

The 2020 population for Alden is 763. Between 2010 and 2020 the population decreased by 3.0%. The City of Alden is in Hardin County. Hardin County saw a 3.7% population decrease between 2010 and 2020.

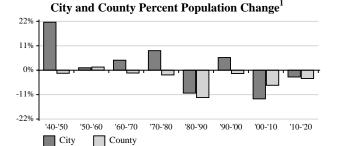
Hardin County Cities - Total Population¹

Hardin County Cities - Total Population								
City	2000	2010	2020					
Alden	904	787	763					
Male Total	426	398	374					
Female Total	478	389	389					
Ackley [†]	1,809	1,589	1,599					
Buckeye	110	108	86					
Eldora	3,035	2,732	2,663					
Hubbard	885	845	860					
Iowa Falls	5,193	5,238	5,106					
New Providence	227	228	236					
Owasa	38	43	34					
Radcliffe	607	545	555					
Steamboat Rock	336	310	264					
Union	427	397	399					
Whitten	160	149	100					
Hardin County Total	18,812	17,534	16,878					
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
Buckeye	4.8%	-1.8%	-20.4%
Iowa Falls	-4.3%	0.9%	-2.5%
Owasa	2.7%	13.2%	-20.9%
Popejoy	-15.2%	1.3%	-2.5%
Williams	16.0%	-19.4%	-10.8%
Alden	5.7%	-12.9%	-3.0%
Hardin County	-1.5%	6.8%	-3.7%
State of Iowa	5.4%	4.1%	4.7%





Alden's population is predominantly White. The City of Alden, compared to Hardin 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	98.3%	93.7%	98.9%	95.7%
White	97.5%	91.9%	95.8%	91.6%
White alone, not Hispanic	96.4%	91.0%	93.7%	90.6%
Black or African American	0.5%	0.1%	1.2%	0.9%
Asian	0.3%	0.0%	0.5%	0.5%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%
Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Other	0.0%	1.4%	1.2%	2.4%
Two or more races	1.7%	6.3%	1.1%	4.3%
Hispanic origin ^a	1.1%	6.0%	3.7%	4.8%

^a Hispanics can be of any race.

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

•	•	•	• •	
		City	C	County
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total households	338	327	7,296	7,070
Family households ^{a,b}	63.3%	66.5%	64.5%	62.8%
Married couple family ^b	53.6%	47.9%	53.0%	50.1%
With own children	20.7%	16.5%	17.8%	16.4%
Other family ^c	9.8%	13.5%	11.5%	12.7%
Male householder ^c	4.1%	5.2%	4.0%	4.8%
With own children	3.0%	3.4%	2.7%	3.0%
Female householder ^c	5.6%	8.3%	7.5%	7.9%
With own children	3.0%	4.9%	5.1%	4.6%
Nonfamily households ^d	36.7%	33.5%	35.5%	37.2%
Male living alone	14.8%	13.1%	13.3%	15.5%
Female living alone	16.3%	18.3%	17.9%	17.0%

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

		City		ounty
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total households	338	327	7,296	7,070
Married couple ^b	53.6%	47.9%	53.0%	50.1%
Cohabiting couple ^{b,f}	NA ^e	7.3%	NA ^e	6.2%
Male householder g	NA^e	17.4%	NA^e	19.9%
Female householder g	NA ^e	26.0%	NA ^e	23.8%

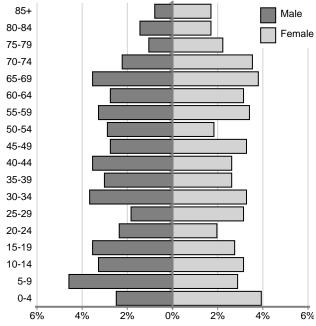
^aHouseholder and at least one other person related to the householder. ^bFor 2020 includes same-sex couples. ^cNo spouse present, but at least one relative present. ^dIn 2010 included same-sex couples whether married or not (if no relatives present). ^e2010 not comparable with 2020. ^fFor 2020 householder 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	23.6%	23.9%	23.1%	22.6%
0 - 4	7.8%	6.4%	6.0%	5.4%
5 - 9	6.9%	7.5%	5.9%	6.0%
10 - 14	5.3%	6.4%	6.4%	7.0%
15 - 17	3.6%	3.6%	4.8%	4.2%
18 - 24	8%	7%	8.1%	7.5%
25 - 44	21.3%	23.7%	20.2%	21.3%
45 - 64	29.1%	23.3%	27.6%	25.4%
65 or older	17.9%	22.0%	21.0%	23.2%
65 - 84	16%	19.5%	16.9%	19.3%
85 or older	1.9%	2.5%	4.1%	3.9%
Median ⁴ Age (years)	41.6	41.4	43.7	43.5
Age Dependency ^{a, 5}	71.1	85.0	78.8	84.5
Old-Age	30.7	40.7	37.5	42.8
Child	40.4	44.3	41.3	41.7

^aAge Dependency Ratio

Alden, Iowa Population Pyramid, 2020



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

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

Median Household and Per Capita Income, 2018-2022²

	City		Co	ounty
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Households	366	+/- 69	7,029	+/- 194
Less than \$34,999	28.1%	+/- 4.1%	28.6%	+/- 2.5%
\$35,000 To \$49,999	11.5%	+/- 5.3%	12.0%	+/- 2.0%
\$50,000 To \$99,999	41.3%	+/- 4.1%	34.9%	+/- 2.2%
\$100,000 Or More	19.1%	+/- 3.4%	24.3%	+/- 2.0%
Median ⁴ Household Income	\$62,969	+/- \$10,090	\$64,656	+/- \$4,778
Median Family Income	\$67,917	+/- \$8,974	\$80,857	+/- \$3,540
Per Capita Income	\$30,654	+/- \$3,530	\$32,181	+/- \$1,328

Educational Attainment, 2018-2022²

	(City		ounty
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population 25 and older	604	+/-106	12,328	+/-63
High School Graduate or Higher	89.7%	+/-5.3%	93.4%	+/-1.1%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	15.6%	+/-5.1%	20.8%	+/-2.1%

^{*}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.

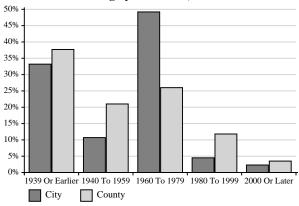
Housing Characteristics, 2018-2022²

Alden, Iowa

		City	Co	ounty
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Units	382	+/- 72	8,031	+/- 44
Vacant	4.2%	+/- 3.8%	12.5%	+/- 2.3%
Occupied	95.8%	+/- 3.8%	87.5%	+/- 2.3%
Occupied ^a	366	+/- 69	7,029	+/- 194
Owner	65.6%	+/- 11.2%	74.2%	+/- 2.7%
Renter	34.4%	+/- 11.2%	25.8%	+/- 2.7%
Rent ^b	\$562	+/- \$51	\$752	+/- \$71
Value ^c	\$103,400	+/-\$10,677	\$109,300	+/-\$5,249

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

Percent Housing by Year Built, 2018-2022²



In Alden 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 18.9% 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	407	+/- 78	8,378	+/- 281
Management, business, science, and arts	28.3%	+/- 8.0%	31.9%	+/- 2.8%
Service	12.5%	+/- 4.9%	15.6%	+/- 2.0%
Sales and office	23.6%	+/- 8.3%	19.7%	+/- 2.4%
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance	**%	+/- **%	15.7%	+/- 2.3%
Production, transportation, and material moving	18.9%	+/- 6.4%	17.1%	+/- 1.9%

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

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

Median Employment Earnings, 2018-2022²

		City	County		
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*	
Population 16+ ^a	437	+/- 85	9,232	+/- 253	
Median Earnings	\$45,347	+/- \$45	\$37,792	+/- \$1,853	
Female	\$39,000	+/- \$3,567	\$31,448	+/- \$3,540	
Female, full time ^b	\$41,964	+/- \$11,236	\$42,258	+/- \$2,681	
Male	\$48,688	+/- \$7,656	\$43,511	+/- \$2,350	
Male, full time ^b	\$51,500	+/- \$11,495	\$47,515	+/- \$3,611	

^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	830	+/-154	16,393	+/-14
With a disability ^b	10.1%	+/-4.2%	13.7%	+/-1.3%
With Health Insurance	98.2%	+/-1.8%	95.6%	+/-0.9%
With Private ^c Coverage	79.3%	+/-6.8%	71.7%	+/-2.1%
With Public ^d Coverage	32.5%	+/-7.9%	39.2%	+/-2.1%
No Health Insurance	**%	+/-**%	4.4%	+/-0.9%

^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+	638	+/- 112	14,104	+/- 55
in labor force	68.3%	+/- 5.5%	61.5%	+/- 2.0%
not in labor force	31.7%	+/- 5.5%	38.5%	+/- 2.0%
Civilian labor force	436	+/- 82	8,680	+/- 268
Unemployed	6.7%	+/- 5.1%	3.5%	+/- 1.1%

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

Individuals and Families Below Poverty Level, 2018-2022²

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Population ^a	828	+/-154	16,112	+/-30
Below poverty	15.7%	+/-7.8%	8.4%	+/-1.3%
17 and under	**%	+/-**%	11.1%	+/-3.9%
18 - 64	**%	+/-**%	8.5%	+/-1.4%
65+	**%	+/-**%	5.9%	+/-2.0%
All Families	**%	+/-**%	5.2%	+/-1.6%
with children	**%	+/-**%	8.6%	+/-3.1%
Married Couple	**%	+/-**%	3.2%	+/-1.3%
with children	**%	+/-**%	**%	+/-**%
Female HH ^b	**%	+/-**%	19.5%	+/-8.7%
with children	**%	+/-**%	24.9%	+/-11.5%

^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.

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.

^{*}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.