Data for Decision Makers



Oelwein, Iowa City Profile

report created: 12/17/2024

Population profile

The 2020 population for Oelwein is 5,920. Between 2010 and 2020 the population decreased by 7.7%. The City of Oelwein is in Fayette County. Fayette County saw a 6.6% population decrease between 2010 and 2020.

Fayette County Cities - Total Population¹

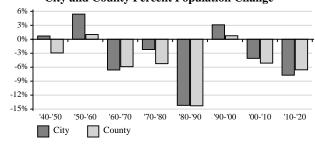
Fayette Co	Fayette County Cities - Total Population							
City	2000	2010	2020					
Oelwein	6,692	6,415	5,920					
Male Total	3,109	3,052	2,903					
Female Total	3,583	3,363	3,017					
Arlington	490	429	419					
Clermont	716	632	586					
Elgin	676	683	685					
Fairbank [†]	1,041	1,113	1,111					
Fayette	1,300	1,338	1,256					
Hawkeye	489	449	438					
Maynard	500	518	476					
St. Lucas	178	143	167					
Stanley [†]	128	125	81					
Sumner [†]	2,106	2,028	2,030					
Wadena	243	262	209					
Waucoma	299	257	229					
West Union	2,549	2,486	2,490					
Westgate	234	211	192					
Fayette County Total	22,008	20,880	19,509					
State of Iowa Total	2,926,324	3,046,355	3,190,369					

 $^{^{\}dagger}$ City is located in multiple counties, total population is provided.

Neighboring Cities - Percent Population Change

	'90-'00	'00-'10	'10-'20
Fairbank	2.3%	6.9%	-0.2%
Hazleton	29.6%	-13.4%	-13.4%
Maynard	-2.5%	3.6%	-8.1%
Stanley	10.3%	-2.3%	-35.2%
Westgate	13.0%	-9.8%	-9.0%
Oelwein	3.1%	-4.1%	-7.7%
Fayette County	0.8%	5.1%	-6.6%
State of Iowa	5.4%	4.1%	4.7%

City and County Percent Population Change¹



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Oelwein's population is predominantly White. The City of Oelwein, compared to Fayette County, had a higher percentage of young people (17 or younger) and a higher 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%	93.3%	99.1%	96.1%
White	96.1%	90.7%	97.0%	93.7%
White alone, not Hispanic	93.9%	88.8%	95.7%	92.5%
Black or African American	0.9%	1.4%	0.9%	1.0%
Asian	0.6%	0.4%	0.5%	0.4%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.1%	0.3%	0.1%	0.2%
Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
Other	0.6%	0.5%	0.4%	0.8%
Two or more races	1.6%	6.7%	0.9%	3.9%
Hispanic origin ^a	2.9%	4.3%	1.8%	2.7%

^a Hispanics can be of any race.

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

•	•		-	
	(City	Co	unty
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total households	2,763	2,550	8,634	8,174
Family households ^{a,b}	60.7%	66.3%	64.8%	61.7%
Married couple family ^b	44.3%	53.5%	52.9%	49.0%
With own children	14.7%	12.7%	18.2%	14.9%
Other family ^c	16.4%	17.3%	11.9%	12.7%
Male householder ^c	5.0%	5.5%	4.3%	4.9%
With own children	3.3%	3.1%	2.5%	2.7%
Female householder ^c	11.5%	11.9%	7.6%	7.8%
With own children	7.6%	7.4%	4.9%	4.7%
Nonfamily households ^d	39.3%	33.7%	35.2%	38.3%
Male living alone	13.8%	16.1%	13.5%	15.8%
Female living alone	20.1%	20.7%	16.2%	16.6%

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

		City		ounty
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total households	2,763	2,550	8,634	8,174
Married couple ^b	44.3%	53.5%	52.9%	49.0%
Cohabiting couple ^{b,f}	NA ^e	9.7%	NA ^e	7.4%
Male householder g	NA^e	20.5%	NA^e	20.2%
Female householder g	NA ^e	30.4%	NA ^e	23.4%

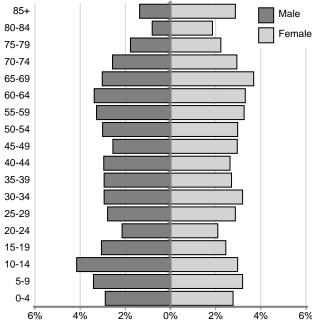
^aHouseholder and at least one other person related to the householder. ^bFor 2020 includes same-sex couples. ^cNo spouse present, but at least one relative present. ^dIn 2010 included same-sex couples whether married or not (if no relatives present). ^e2010 not comparable with 2020. ^fFor 2020 householder 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%	23.2%	22.5%	21.5%
0 - 4	7.3%	5.7%	6.0%	5.3%
5 - 9	5.9%	6.6%	5.7%	5.7%
10 - 14	6.3%	7.1%	6.5%	6.6%
15 - 17	3.6%	3.8%	4.3%	3.9%
18 - 24	7.4%	5.9%	9.4%	8.6%
25 - 44	22%	23%	20.4%	21.1%
45 - 64	26.3%	24.7%	28.3%	26%
65 or older	21.2%	23.1%	19.4%	22.8%
65 - 84	16.9%	18.9%	16.1%	19.2%
85 or older	4.3%	4.2%	3.3%	3.6%
Median ⁴ Age (years)	42.9	43.1	43.2	44.0
Age Dependency ^{a, 5}	79.5	86.4	72.1	79.5
Old-Age	38.1	43.1	33.4	40.9
Child	41.5	43.3	38.7	38.6

^aAge Dependency Ratio

Oelwein, Iowa Population Pyramid, 2020¹



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

The median household income in Oelwein is less than the median household income of Fayette County. The median value of owner-occupied housing units is lower in Oelwein than for Fayette County. There is a higher percentage of vacant housing units in Oelwein than there is for Fayette County. Many housing units in Oelwein were built prior to 1940. There is a lower percentage of individuals 25 and older with a Bachelor's degree or higher in Oelwein compared to Fayette County.

Median Household and Per Capita Income, 2018-2022²

	City		Co	ounty
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Households	2,628	+/- 187	8,228	+/- 174
Less than \$34,999	45.5%	+/- 4.0%	32.2%	+/- 2.5%
\$35,000 To \$49,999	11.3%	+/- 4.2%	13.3%	+/- 1.8%
\$50,000 To \$99,999	29.2%	+/- 3.0%	31.7%	+/- 1.9%
\$100,000 Or More	14.0%	+/- 2.6%	22.8%	+/- 2.0%
Median ⁴ Household Income	\$41,629	+/- \$5,325	\$56,043	+/- \$2,534
Median Family Income	\$58,806	+/- \$4,096	\$71,025	+/- \$4,272
Per Capita Income	\$26,500	+/- \$3,070	\$31,566	+/- \$1,538

Educational Attainment, 2018-2022²

	(City	County		
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*	
Population 25 and older	4,374	+/-180	13,601	+/-77	
High School Graduate or Higher	90.6%	+/-2.5%	92.9%	+/-1.1%	
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	13.7%	+/-4.0%	17.2%	+/-1.7%	

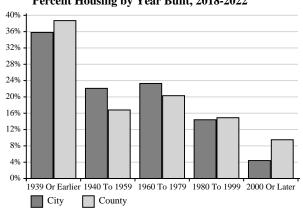
^{*}MOE = the margin of error for American Community Survey estimates² which is a numerical value that when added to or subtracted from the point estimate value gives the range of a 90% confidence interval around the estimate.

Housing Characteristics, 2018-2022²

	(City	Co	ounty
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Units	3,029	+/- 172	9,323	+/- 31
Vacant	13.2%	+/- 4.8%	11.7%	+/- 1.8%
Occupied	86.8%	+/- 4.8%	88.3%	+/- 1.8%
Occupied ^a	2,628	+/- 187	8,228	+/- 174
Owner	73.2%	+/- 6.0%	76.2%	+/- 2.4%
Renter	26.8%	+/- 6.0%	23.8%	+/- 2.4%
Rent ^b	\$790	+/- \$102	\$780	+/- \$33
Value ^c	\$97,000	+/-\$8,964	\$123,000	+/-\$6,895

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

Percent Housing by Year Built, 2018-2022²



In Oelwein there is a higher percentage of workers in production, transportation, and material moving occupations than any other occupation category. The production, transportation, and material moving occupation category makes up 33.5% 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	2,338	+/- 223	9,230	+/- 312
Management, business, science, and arts	23.1%	+/- 6.4%	30.6%	+/- 2.5%
Service	19.7%	+/- 5.2%	15.3%	+/- 2.0%
Sales and office	15.6%	+/- 5.6%	18.9%	+/- 2.2%
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance	8.2%	+/- 3.4%	14.0%	+/- 1.7%
Production, transportation, and material moving	33.5%	+/- 6.6%	21.3%	+/- 2.4%

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

Oelwein has a lower proportion of the population age 16 or older in the labor force than Fayette 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 Oelwein tend to be lower than the median earnings for Fayette 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	2,744	+/- 262	10,345	+/- 271	
Median Earnings	\$32,705	+/- \$32	\$35,697	+/- \$1,881	
Female	\$25,784	+/- \$2,435	\$27,832	+/- \$2,330	
Female, full time ^b	\$39,922	+/- \$8,882	\$41,291	+/- \$1,436	
Male	\$43,661	+/- \$8,826	\$41,727	+/- \$2,031	
Male, full time ^b	\$53,839	+/- \$8,329	\$50,313	+/- \$3,275	

^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	5,786	+/-29	19,160	+/-13
With a disability ^b	24.8%	+/-5.1%	16.3%	+/-1.8%
With Health Insurance	93.7%	+/-3.0%	94.6%	+/-1.2%
With Private ^c Coverage	57.5%	+/-6.6%	67.3%	+/-2.6%
With Public ^d Coverage	53.5%	+/-6.7%	44.4%	+/-2.6%
No Health Insurance	6.3%	+/-3.0%	5.4%	+/-1.2%

^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+	4,859	+/- 143	15,824	+/- 78
in labor force	51.6%	+/- 4.5%	60.6%	+/- 2.0%
not in labor force	48.4%	+/- 4.5%	39.4%	+/- 2.0%
Civilian labor force	2,505	+/- 230	9,589	+/- 305
Unemployed	6.7%	+/- 3.6%	3.7%	+/- 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	5,770	+/-38	18,868	+/-39
Below poverty	17.5%	+/-4.1%	11.8%	+/-1.8%
17 and under	18.5%	+/-8.4%	12.5%	+/-3.9%
18 - 64	19.6%	+/-4.7%	12.8%	+/-2.1%
65+	**%	+/-**%	8.5%	+/-2.2%
All Families	13.2%	+/-5.8%	8.4%	+/-2.4%
with children	**%	+/-**%	14.3%	+/-4.9%
Married Couple	**%	+/-**%	5.0%	+/-2.0%
with children	**%	+/-**%	**%	+/-**%
Female HH ^b	**%	+/-**%	30.7%	+/-12.7%
with children	**%	+/-**%	37.5%	+/-16.2%

^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
- 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.

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