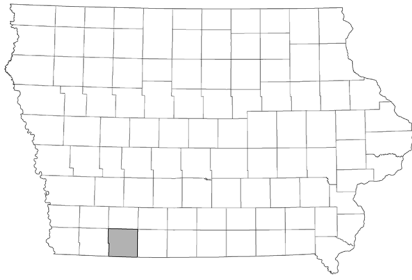# Data for Decision Makers

Bedford, Iowa City Profile

report created: 12/17/2024

Population profile

The 2020 population for Bedford is 1,508. Between 2010 and 2020 the population increased by 4.7%. The City of Bedford is in Taylor County. Taylor County saw a 6.7% population decrease between 2010 and 2020.

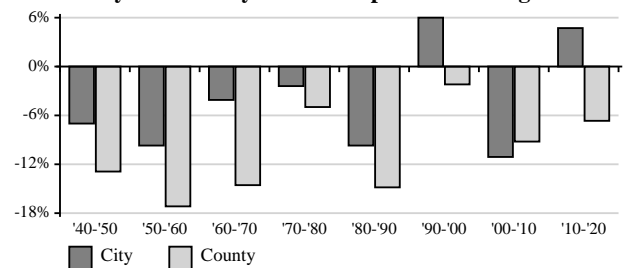**Taylor County Cities - Total Population[1]**

City	2000	2010	2020
Bedford	**1,620**	**1,440**	**1,508**
Male Total	740	680	723
Female Total	880	760	785
Blockton	192	192	125
Clearfield[†]	371	363	278
Conway	63	41	17
Gravity	218	188	154
Lenox[†]	1,401	1,407	1,339
New Market	456	415	385
Sharpsburg	98	89	72
Taylor County Total	6,958	6,317	5,896
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
Blockton	-9.9%	0.0%	-34.9%
Conway	10.5%	-34.9%	-58.5%
Gravity	0.0%	-13.8%	-18.1%
New Market	0.4%	-9.0%	-7.2%
Sharpsburg	-15.5%	-9.2%	-19.1%
Bedford	6.0%	-11.1%	4.7%
Taylor County	-2.2%	9.2%	-6.7%
State of Iowa	5.4%	4.1%	4.7%

City and County Percent Population Change[1]

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Justin Akers
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County Office
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IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach
Community and Economic Development

Bedford's population is predominantly White. The City of Bedford, compared to Taylor 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 Origin[1]

	City		County	
Race Groups	2010	2020	2010	2020
One race only	99.0%	96.2%	99.1%	95.8%
White	97.4%	94.2%	96.1%	91.8%
White alone, not Hispanic	97.2%	93.8%	93.0%	90.0%
Black or African American	0.5%	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%
Asian	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.1%	0.3%	0.1%	0.3%
Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
Other	0.8%	1.4%	2.3%	3.3%
Two or more races	1.0%	3.8%	0.9%	4.2%
Hispanic origin[a]	1.3%	1.5%	5.8%	6.8%

[a] *Hispanics can be of any race.*

Households by Family or Nonfamily Type[1,3]

	City		County	
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total households	614	620	2,679	2,506
Family households[a,b]	62.2%	62.1%	65.2%	64.5%
Married couple family[b]	50.3%	47.3%	54.6%	51.8%
With own children	18.4%	18.4%	18.4%	17.0%
Other family[c]	11.9%	13.2%	10.6%	12.7%
Male householder[c]	3.4%	4.4%	3.9%	4.7%
With own children	2.1%	1.8%	2.8%	2.9%
Female householder[c]	8.5%	8.9%	6.7%	8.0%
With own children	4.6%	6.1%	4.0%	5.1%
Nonfamily households[d]	37.8%	37.9%	34.8%	35.5%
Male living alone	11.4%	11.9%	14.3%	14.3%
Female living alone	21.7%	21.5%	15.4%	16.6%

Households by Couple or Non-couple Type[1,3]

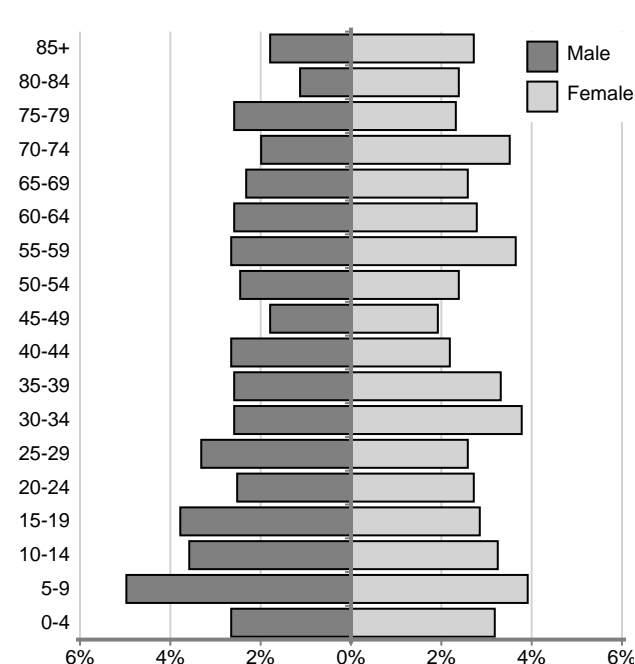|	City		County	
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total households	614	620	2,679	2,506
Married couple[b]	50.3%	47.3%	54.6%	51.8%
Cohabiting couple[b,f]	NA[e]	7.4%	NA[e]	6.4%
Male householder[g]	NA[e]	15.6%	NA[e]	18.2%
Female householder[g]	NA[e]	29.5%	NA[e]	23.7%

[a]*Householder and at least one other person related to the householder.* [b]*For 2020 includes same-sex couples.* [c]*No spouse present, but at least one relative present.* [d]*In 2010 included same-sex couples whether married or not (if no relatives present).* [e]*2010 not comparable with 2020.* [f]*For 2020 householder has an unmarried partner.* [g]*For 2020 no spouse or partner present, but relatives, nonrelatives may be present or householder may be living alone.*

Percentage of Population by Age[1]

	City		County	
Age Groups	2010	2020	2010	2020
17 or younger	24.1%	25.7%	23.4%	23.4%
0 - 4	6.8%	5.8%	5.9%	6.0%
5 - 9	6.9%	8.9%	6.5%	7.0%
10 - 14	6.3%	6.8%	6.7%	6.7%
15 - 17	4.1%	4.2%	4.3%	3.7%
18 - 24	6.9%	7.6%	6.0%	6.4%
25 - 44	20.6%	23%	21.0%	21.4%
45 - 64	25.3%	20.2%	28.6%	24.7%
65 or older	23.2%	23.3%	21.0%	24.1%
65 - 84	17.8%	18.8%	16.8%	20.4%
85 or older	5.4%	4.5%	4.2%	3.6%
Median[4] Age (years)	43.9	39.0	44.6	43.5
Age Dependency[a, 5]	89.8	96.5	79.9	90.5
Old-Age	44.0	45.9	37.8	45.9
Child	45.7	50.6	42.1	44.6

[a]*Age Dependency Ratio*

Bedford, Iowa Population Pyramid,[a] 2020[1]

[a]*Each bar represents the percentage that an age-sex group comprises of the total population.*

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

Median Household and Per Capita Income, 2018-2022[2]

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Households	573	+/- 69	2,442	+/- 82
Less than $34,999	24.1%	+/- 3.6%	25.1%	+/- 2.6%
$35,000 To $49,999	14.8%	+/- 4.6%	13.2%	+/- 2.5%
$50,000 To $99,999	37.2%	+/- 3.4%	35.1%	+/- 2.4%
$100,000 Or More	23.9%	+/- 3.3%	26.6%	+/- 2.8%
Median[4] Household Income	$61,838	+/- $11,516	$65,926	+/- $5,781
Median Family Income	$76,793	+/- $2,149	$76,854	+/- $2,621
Per Capita Income	$29,570	+/- $3,356	$33,092	+/- $2,206

Housing Characteristics, 2018-2022[2]

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Units	714	+/- 69	2,908	+/- 37
Vacant	19.7%	+/- 6.6%	16.0%	+/- 2.6%
Occupied	80.3%	+/- 6.6%	84.0%	+/- 2.6%
Occupied[a]	573	+/- 69	2,442	+/- 82
Owner	80.5%	+/- 6.1%	78.8%	+/- 3.1%
Renter	19.5%	+/- 6.1%	21.2%	+/- 3.1%
Rent[b]	$610	+/- $40	$636	+/- $63
Value[c]	$86,800	+/-$6,737	$104,500	+/-$7,752

[a]*Occupied Units,* [b]*Median gross rent of renter-occupied units,* [c]*Median value of owner-occupied units*

Educational Attainment, 2018-2022[2]

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population 25 and older	973	+/-116	4,110	+/-58
High School Graduate or Higher	91.4%	+/-3.9%	91%	+/-1.6%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	12.5%	+/-4.2%	15.5%	+/-2.3%

*MOE = the margin of error for American Community Survey estimates[2] 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.
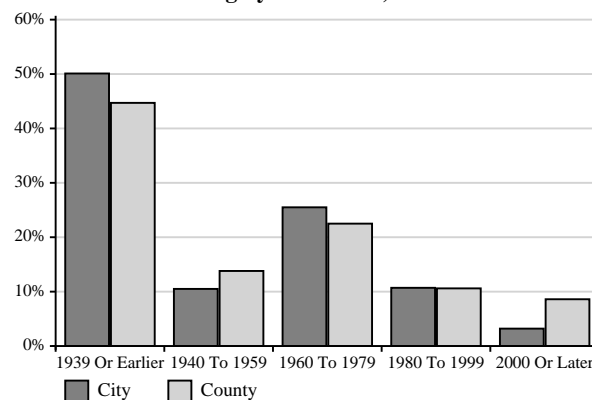***MOE is high, use county estimate.*

Percent Housing by Year Built, 2018-2022[2]

Occupation of the Civilian Employed Population, 2018-2022[2]

In Bedford 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 25.3% of occupations of the civilian employed population in the city.

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	712	+/- 98	2,951	+/- 121
Management, business, science, and arts	36.9%	+/- 7.3%	31.0%	+/- 3.6%
Service	13.8%	+/- 4.8%	16.8%	+/- 3.0%
Sales and office	15.6%	+/- 4.6%	13.7%	+/- 2.2%
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance	8.4%	+/- 3.0%	15.2%	+/- 3.4%
Production, transportation, and material moving	25.3%	+/- 4.8%	23.2%	+/- 3.3%

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

Median Employment Earnings, 2018-2022[2]

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population 16+ [a]	810	+/- 117	3,327	+/- 110
Median Earnings	$38,274	+/- $38	$36,862	+/- $3,154
Female	$34,167	+/- $12,096	$32,770	+/- $3,116
Female, full time[b]	$38,306	+/- $2,948	$39,735	+/- $2,600
Male	$45,385	+/- $10,806	$41,294	+/- $1,959
Male, full time[b]	$52,500	+/- $1,663	$51,677	+/- $3,493

[a] with earnings, [b] year round, **MOE is high, use county estimate.

Employment Status, 2018-2022[2]

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population 16+	1,128	+/- 140	4,728	+/- 52
in labor force	67.1%	+/- 4.2%	64.5%	+/- 2.1%
not in labor force	32.9%	+/- 4.2%	35.5%	+/- 2.1%
Civilian labor force	757	+/- 110	3,049	+/- 115
Unemployed	5.9%	+/- 4.4%	3.2%	+/- 1.5%

**MOE is high, use county estimate.

Disability Status and Health Insurance Coverage of the Civilian Noninstitutionalized Population, 2018-2022[2]

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population[a]	1,365	+/-168	5,809	+/-19
With a disability[b]	11.1%	+/-2.9%	12.8%	+/-1.6%
With Health Insurance	91.6%	+/-3.5%	93.3%	+/-2.2%
With Private[c] Coverage	69.0%	+/-5.7%	70.6%	+/-3.3%
With Public[d] Coverage	36.6%	+/-5.5%	40.8%	+/-2.7%
No Health Insurance	8.4%	+/-3.5%	6.7%	+/-2.2%

[a]Civilan Noninstitutionalized Population, [b]limitations of activities or inability for full participation, [c]provided by employer, union, bought by individual, and some miliary plans, [d]includes Medicare, Medicaid, VA Health Care, children's CHIP, and some state plans, **MOE is high, use county estimate.
*MOE = the margin of error for American Community Survey estimates[2] 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.

Individuals and Families Below Poverty Level, 2018-2022[2]

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Population[a]	1,365	+/-168	5,806	+/-20
Below poverty	7.5%	+/-3.0%	8.5%	+/-1.9%
17 and under	**%	+/-**%	6.2%	+/-3%
18 - 64	8.1%	+/-3.8%	9.1%	+/-2.6%
65+	**%	+/-**%	9.6%	+/-3.3%
All Families	**%	+/-**%	4.4%	+/-1.6%
with children	**%	+/-**%	6.4%	+/-3.1%
Married Couple	**%	+/-**%	2.9%	+/-1.3%
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.