Data for Decision Makers



Emmetsburg, Iowa City Profile

report created: 12/17/2024

Population profile

The 2020 population for Emmetsburg is 3,706. Between 2010 and 2020 the population decreased by 5.1%. The City of Emmetsburg is in Palo Alto County. Palo Alto County saw a 4.5% population decrease between 2010 and 2020.

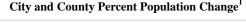
Palo Alto County Cities - Total Population¹

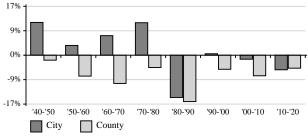
Palo Alto County Cities - Total Population								
City	2000	2010	2020					
Emmetsburg	3,958	3,904	3,706					
Male Total	1,898	1,886	1,787					
Female Total	2,060	2,018	1,919					
Ayrshire	202	143	133					
Curlew	62	58	37					
Cylinder	110	88	87					
Graettinger	900	844	832					
Mallard	298	274	257					
Rodman	56	45	31					
Ruthven	711	737	725					
West Bend [†]	834	785	791					
Palo Alto County Total	10,147	9,421	8,996					
State of Iowa Total	2,926,324	3,046,355	3,190,369					

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

Neighboring Cities - Percent Population Change

	'90-'00	'00-'10	'10-'20
Ayrshire	3.6%	-29.2%	-7.0%
Curlew	10.7%	-6.5%	-36.2%
Cylinder	-1.8%	-20.0%	-1.1%
Graettinger	10.7%	-6.2%	-1.4%
Rodman	0.0%	-19.6%	-31.1%
Emmetsburg	0.5%	-1.4%	-5.1%
Palo Alto County	-4.9%	7.2%	-4.5%
State of Iowa	5.4%	4.1%	4.7%





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Demographic Profile

Emmetsburg, Iowa

Emmetsburg's population is predominantly White. The City of Emmetsburg, compared to Palo Alto County, had a lower 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	98.9%	95.9%	99.2%	96.6%
White	96.9%	92.8%	97.8%	94.1%
White alone, not Hispanic	95.5%	91.8%	96.7%	93.3%
Black or African American	1.0%	0.9%	0.5%	0.6%
Asian	0.5%	0.5%	0.3%	0.4%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.2%	0.4%	0.2%	0.3%
Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
Other	0.3%	1.2%	0.3%	1.2%
Two or more races	1.1%	4.1%	0.8%	3.4%
Hispanic origin ^a	2.0%	3.3%	1.6%	3.0%

^a Hispanics can be of any race.

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

•	•	•	• •	
		City	Co	unty
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total households	1,632	1,598	3,994	3,831
Family households ^{a,b}	59.3%	81.3%	62.8%	62.1%
Married couple family ^b	47.0%	81.3%	51.9%	49.7%
With own children	15.3%	14.6%	18.0%	16.9%
Other family ^c	12.3%	14.6%	10.9%	12.4%
Male householder ^c	3.4%	4.8%	3.8%	4.6%
With own children	2.3%	2.5%	2.4%	2.7%
Female householder ^c	8.8%	9.9%	7.1%	7.8%
With own children	5.8%	6.6%	4.6%	4.9%
Nonfamily households ^d	40.7%	18.8%	37.2%	37.9%
Male living alone	13.1%	17.0%	14.1%	16.9%
Female living alone	21.2%	20.3%	17.8%	16.2%

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

		City		ounty
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total households	1,632	1,598	3,994	3,831
Married couple ^b	47.0%	81.3%	51.9%	49.7%
Cohabiting couple ^{b,f}	NA ^e	6.5%	NA^e	6.5%
Male householder g	NA ^e	21.0%	NA^e	20.8%
Female householder ^g	NA ^e	29.1%	NA ^e	23.0%

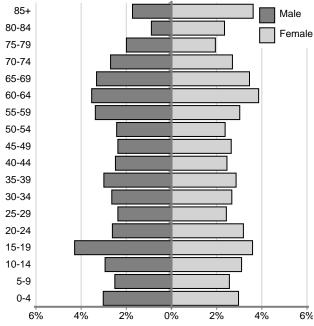
^aHouseholder and at least one other person related to the householder. ^bFor 2020 includes same-sex couples. ^cNo spouse present, but at least one relative present. ^dIn 2010 included same-sex couples whether married or not (if no relatives present). ^e2010 not comparable with 2020. ^fFor 2020 householder 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	20.2%	21.3%	22.0%	22.5%
0 - 4	6.1%	6.0%	6.2%	6.1%
5 - 9	6.3%	5.1%	6.3%	5.8%
10 - 14	5.1%	6.0%	5.7%	6.5%
15 - 17	2.7%	4.2%	3.8%	4.1%
18 - 24	12.7%	9.5%	9.0%	7.6%
25 - 44	19.9%	20.9%	20.0%	21.2%
45 - 64	25.5%	23.6%	27.7%	25.3%
65 or older	21.6%	24.7%	21.3%	23.3%
65 - 84	16.9%	19.3%	17.1%	19.1%
85 or older	4.7%	5.3%	4.2%	4.3%
Median ⁴ Age (years)	41.4	43.2	43.9	43.6
Age Dependency ^{a, 5}	71.9	85.2	76.4	84.7
Old-Age	37.2	45.7	37.6	43.1
Child	34.8	39.4	38.8	41.6

^aAge Dependency Ratio

Emmetsburg, Iowa Population Pyramid, ^a 2020¹



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

Socioeconomic Profile

Emmetsburg, Iowa

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

Median Household and Per Capita Income, 2018-2022²

	City		Co	ounty
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Households	1,572	+/- 133	3,635	+/- 151
Less than \$34,999	34.2%	+/- 3.9%	26.3%	+/- 2.7%
\$35,000 To \$49,999	9.6%	+/- 4.0%	11.7%	+/- 2.4%
\$50,000 To \$99,999	33.9%	+/- 3.4%	33.0%	+/- 2.5%
\$100,000 Or More	22.2%	+/- 3.2%	29.0%	+/- 2.5%
Median ⁴ Household Income	\$54,408	+/- \$6,019	\$67,306	+/- \$5,588
Median Family Income	\$75,862	+/- \$15,899	\$86,020	+/- \$6,346
Per Capita Income	\$30,911	+/- \$3,237	\$33,517	+/- \$2,063

Educational Attainment, 2018-2022²

	C	City	County		
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*	
Population 25 and older	2,520	+/-146	6,058	+/-71	
High School Graduate or Higher	91.7%	+/-3.3%	93%	+/-1.5%	
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	18.6%	+/-5.1%	20.2%	+/-3%	

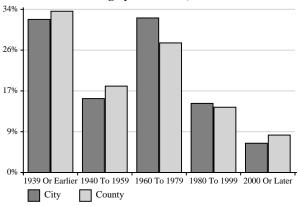
^{*}MOE = the margin of error for American Community Survey estimates² which is a numerical value that when added to or subtracted from the point estimate value gives the range of a 90% confidence interval around the estimate.

Housing Characteristics, 2018-2022²

		City	Co	ounty
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Units	1,866	+/- 129	4,509	+/- 47
Vacant	15.8%	+/- 5.2%	19.4%	+/- 3.0%
Occupied	84.2%	+/- 5.2%	80.6%	+/- 3.0%
Occupied ^a	1,572	+/- 133	3,635	+/- 151
Owner	70.4%	+/- 6.2%	76.1%	+/- 3.2%
Renter	29.6%	+/- 6.2%	23.9%	+/- 3.2%
Rent ^b	\$628	+/- \$126	\$631	+/- \$74
Value ^c	\$116,200	+/-\$11,668	\$117,000	+/-\$8,558

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

Percent Housing by Year Built, 2018-2022²



In Emmetsburg 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 27.8% 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	1,885	+/- 190	4,493	+/- 196
Management, business, science, and arts	32.0%	+/- 7.5%	29.9%	+/- 4.0%
Service	10.7%	+/- 4.5%	11.9%	+/- 2.5%
Sales and office	20.5%	+/- 6.3%	22.2%	+/- 3.1%
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance	9.0%	+/- 4.1%	14.2%	+/- 2.8%
Production, transportation, and material moving	27.8%	+/- 8.6%	21.8%	+/- 4.1%

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

Socioeconomic Profile

Emmetsburg, Iowa

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

Median Employment Earnings, 2018-2022²

	1	City		ounty
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population 16+ ^a	2,021	+/- 193	4,873	+/- 173
Median Earnings	\$29,179	+/- \$29	\$36,815	+/- \$1,619
Female	\$25,962	+/- \$9,165	\$30,676	+/- \$3,546
Female, full time ^b	\$42,576	+/- \$11,289	\$42,421	+/- \$2,662
Male	\$30,189	+/- \$14,436	\$42,315	+/- \$4,954
Male, full time ^b	\$53,125	+/- \$10,100	\$55,270	+/- \$4,576

^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	3,549	+/-26	8,743	+/-8
With a disability ^b	17.0%	+/-3.6%	14.3%	+/-1.7%
With Health Insurance	98.0%	+/-1.9%	95.8%	+/-1.5%
With Private ^c Coverage	67.7%	+/-7.6%	69.3%	+/-3.6%
With Public ^d Coverage	48.7%	+/-6.8%	42.4%	+/-3.4%
No Health Insurance	**%	+/-**%	4.2%	+/-1.5%

^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+	3,028	+/- 130	7,043	+/- 70
in labor force	64.9%	+/- 4.4%	66.2%	+/- 2.2%
not in labor force	35.1%	+/- 4.4%	33.8%	+/- 2.2%
Civilian labor force	1,966	+/- 171	4,663	+/- 177
Unemployed	4.1%	+/- 2.5%	3.6%	+/- 1.3%

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

Individuals and Families Below Poverty Level, 2018-2022²

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Population ^a	3,393	+/-54	8,537	+/-81
Below poverty	15.4%	+/-7.2%	10.7%	+/-3%
17 and under	**%	+/-**%	17.2%	+/-8.1%
18 - 64	11.9%	+/-5.1%	9.1%	+/-2.3%
65+	**%	+/-**%	7.3%	+/-2.9%
All Families	**%	+/-**%	6.8%	+/-2.7%
with children	**%	+/-**%	13.2%	+/-6.1%
Married Couple	**%	+/-**%	5.8%	+/-2.6%
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
- 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.
- ⁴ Median 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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