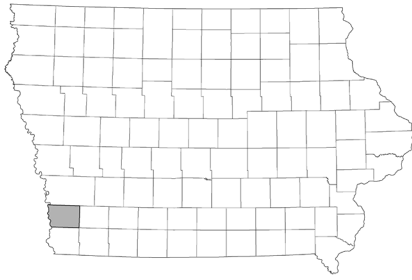


Data for Decision Makers



Emerson, Iowa City Profile

report created: 12/17/2024

Population profile

The 2020 population for Emerson is 403. Between 2010 and 2020 the population decreased by 8.0%. The City of Emerson is in Mills County. Mills County saw a 3.8% population decrease between 2010 and 2020.

Mills County Cities - Total Population¹

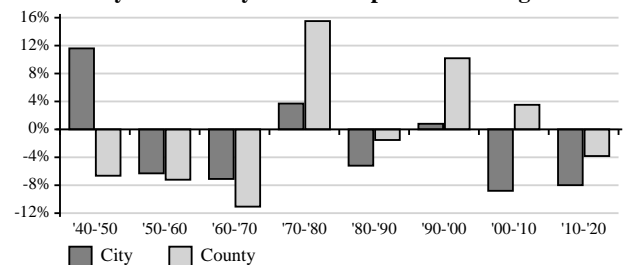
City	2000	2010	2020
Emerson	480	438	403
Male Total	225	213	209
Female Total	255	225	194
Glenwood	5,358	5,269	5,073
Hastings	214	152	152
Henderson	171	185	144
Malvern	1,256	1,142	1,046
Pacific Junction	507	471	96
Silver City	259	245	245
Tabor [†]	993	1,040	1,014
Mills County Total	14,547	15,059	14,484
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
Hastings	14.4%	-29.0%	0.0%
Henderson	-17.0%	8.2%	-22.2%
Imogene	-25.0%	9.1%	-45.8%
Malvern	3.8%	-9.1%	-8.4%
Red Oak	-1.1%	-7.3%	-2.5%
Emerson	0.8%	-8.8%	-8.0%
Mills County	10.2%	3.5%	-3.8%
State of Iowa	5.4%	4.1%	4.7%

City and County Percent Population Change¹



Regional Director

Julie Hering-Kent
1901 N Broadway, Ste A
Red Oak, IA 51566
jkent@iastate.edu
712-623-2592

County Office

Kevin Pitzen
61321 315th St.
Malvern, IA 51551
kpitzen@iastate.edu
712-624-8616

<https://indicators.extension.iastate.edu>

Demographic Profile

Emerson, Iowa

Emerson's population is predominantly White. The City of Emerson, compared to Mills 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

Race Groups	City		County	
	2010	2020	2010	2020
One race only	98.9%	96.0%	98.9%	95.2%
White	98.9%	95.0%	97.2%	93.2%
White alone, not Hispanic	98.4%	94.5%	95.6%	92.0%
Black or African American	0.0%	0.5%	0.4%	0.5%
Asian	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%	0.3%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.2%
Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%
Other	0.0%	0.2%	0.6%	0.8%
Two or more races	1.1%	4.0%	1.1%	4.8%
Hispanic origin ^a	0.5%	1.5%	2.4%	3.2%

^a Hispanics can be of any race.

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

	City		County	
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total households	186	166	5,605	5,512
Family households ^{a,b}	66.1%	61.6%	73.0%	71.8%
Married couple family ^b	55.4%	37.9%	59.8%	58.3%
With own children	19.9%	18.7%	22.5%	20.9%
Other family ^c	10.8%	16.9%	13.2%	13.4%
Male householder ^c	2.7%	6.6%	4.4%	4.7%
With own children	1.6%	4.2%	2.8%	2.7%
Female householder ^c	8.1%	10.2%	8.8%	8.8%
With own children	3.8%	3.0%	5.8%	4.9%
Nonfamily households ^d	33.9%	38.4%	27.0%	28.2%
Male living alone	12.9%	9.0%	10.5%	10.9%
Female living alone	17.2%	17.5%	11.8%	12.5%

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

	City		County	
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total households	186	166	5,605	5,512
Married couple ^b	55.4%	37.9%	59.8%	58.3%
Cohabiting couple ^{b,f}	NA ^e	5.4%	NA ^e	5.6%
Male householder ^g	NA ^e	15.1%	NA ^e	15.3%
Female householder ^g	NA ^e	27.1%	NA ^e	20.7%

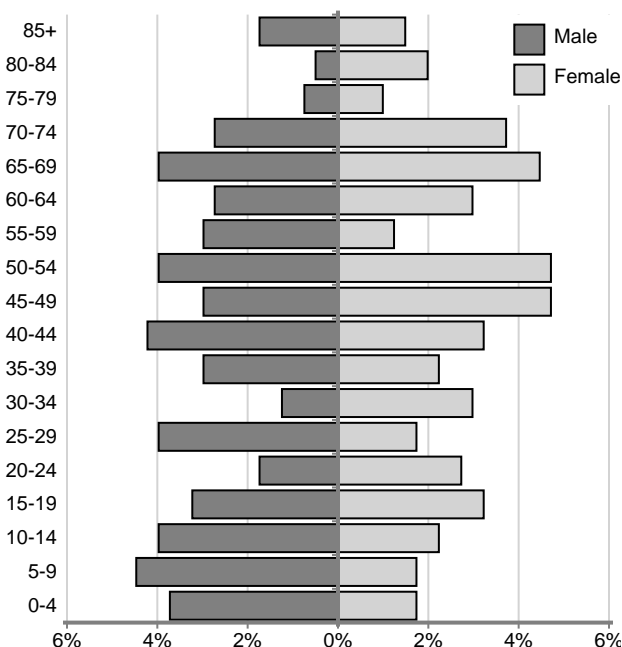
^aHouseholder and at least one other person related to the householder. ^bFor 2020 includes same-sex couples. ^cNo spouse present, but at least one relative present. ^dIn 2010 included same-sex couples whether married or not (if no relatives present). ^e2010 not comparable with 2020. ^fFor 2020 householder 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

Age Groups	City		County	
	2010	2020	2010	2020
17 or younger	21.9%	22.6%	25.4%	24.6%
0 - 4	5%	5.5%	6.4%	5.5%
5 - 9	4.1%	6.2%	7.0%	7.1%
10 - 14	7.5%	6.2%	7.3%	7.6%
15 - 17	5.3%	4.7%	4.7%	4.4%
18 - 24	5.7%	6.3%	6.4%	6.7%
25 - 44	21.7%	22.5%	23.2%	21.3%
45 - 64	31.5%	26.3%	31.7%	28.3%
65 or older	19.2%	22.3%	13.4%	19.2%
65 - 84	15.8%	19.1%	11.6%	17.4%
85 or older	3.4%	3.2%	1.8%	1.8%
Median ⁴ Age (years)	45.8	43.9	41.2	43.1
Age Dependency ^{a, 5}	69.8	81.5	63.4	77.8
Old-Age	32.6	40.5	21.9	34.1
Child	37.2	41.0	41.5	43.7

^aAge Dependency Ratio

Emerson, Iowa Population Pyramid,^a 2020¹



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

Socioeconomic Profile

Emerson, Iowa

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

Median Household and Per Capita Income, 2018-2022²

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Households	219	+/- 49	5,261	+/- 166
Less than \$34,999	27.9%	+/- 4.4%	17.2%	+/- 2.5%
\$35,000 To \$49,999	20.5%	+/- 8.6%	9.3%	+/- 2.2%
\$50,000 To \$99,999	32.0%	+/- 3.5%	35.1%	+/- 2.3%
\$100,000 Or More	19.6%	+/- 3.6%	38.4%	+/- 2.7%
Median ⁴ Household Income	\$58,750	+/- \$29,788	\$81,907	+/- \$4,106
Median Family Income	\$70,000	+/- \$22,586	\$100,809	+/- \$7,656
Per Capita Income	\$30,012	+/- \$5,057	\$40,709	+/- \$2,765

Educational Attainment, 2018-2022²

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population 25 and older	362	+/-76	10,081	+/-158
High School Graduate or Higher	86.7%	+/-4.8%	95.1%	+/-1.4%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	13.3%	+/-5.1%	30.5%	+/-2.9%

*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.

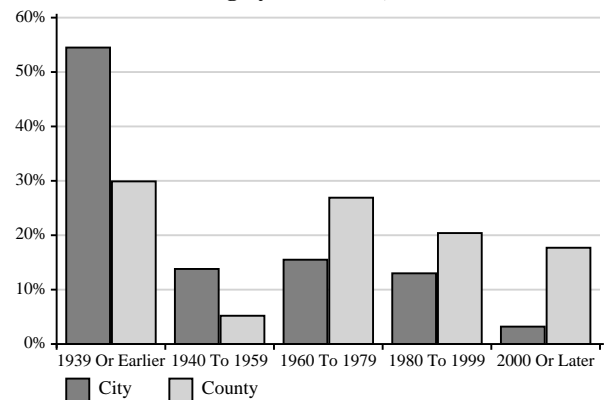
**MOE is high, use county estimate.

Housing Characteristics, 2018-2022²

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Units	253	+/- 57	6,121	+/- 23
Vacant	13.4%	+/- 8.9%	14.0%	+/- 2.7%
Occupied	86.6%	+/- 8.9%	86.0%	+/- 2.7%
Occupied ^a	219	+/- 49	5,261	+/- 166
Owner	84.5%	+/- 7.2%	81.3%	+/- 3.0%
Renter	15.5%	+/- 7.2%	18.7%	+/- 3.0%
Rent ^b	\$**	+/- \$**	\$843	+/- \$123
Value ^c	\$106,500	+/- \$22,379	\$225,500	+/- \$10,737

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

Percent Housing by Year Built, 2018-2022²



In Emerson 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 22.9% 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	231	+/- 61	6,743	+/- 259
Management, business, science, and arts	27.3%	+/- 9.1%	43.1%	+/- 3.3%
Service	19.0%	+/- 7.7%	14.8%	+/- 2.3%
Sales and office	21.6%	+/- 7.8%	18.5%	+/- 2.3%
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance	**%	+/- **%	9.4%	+/- 2.1%
Production, transportation, and material moving	22.9%	+/- 6.7%	14.3%	+/- 2.7%

Socioeconomic Profile

Emerson, Iowa

Emerson has a lower proportion of the population age 16 or older in the labor force than Mills 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 Emerson tend to be lower than the median earnings for Mills 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	252	+/- 64	7,576	+/- 267
Median Earnings	\$43,300	+/- \$43	\$45,908	+/- \$3,500
Female	\$42,750	+/- \$12,566	\$41,791	+/- \$5,356
Female, full time ^b	\$44,917	+/- \$3,128	\$52,386	+/- \$3,900
Male	\$44,125	+/- \$4,470	\$48,710	+/- \$4,481
Male, full time ^b	\$49,821	+/- \$6,459	\$66,021	+/- \$2,510

^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		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population ^a	505	+/-119	14,257	+/-115
With a disability ^b	21.0%	+/-6.2%	13.6%	+/-1.8%
With Health Insurance	98.0%	+/-2.0%	96.9%	+/-1.1%
With Private ^c Coverage	71.9%	+/-9.0%	77.7%	+/-2.9%
With Public ^d Coverage	44.0%	+/-9.1%	35.3%	+/-2.8%
No Health Insurance	**%	+/-**%	3.1%	+/-1.1%

^aCivilian Noninstitutionalized Population, ^blimitations of activities or inability for full participation, ^cprovided by employer, union, bought by individual, and some military plans, ^dincludes 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 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.

Employment Status, 2018-2022²

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population 16+	415	+/- 86	11,527	+/- 224
in labor force	60.5%	+/- 6.7%	62.7%	+/- 2.4%
not in labor force	39.5%	+/- 6.7%	37.3%	+/- 2.4%
Civilian labor force	248	+/- 65	7,052	+/- 251
Unemployed	6.9%	+/- 4.7%	4.4%	+/- 1.6%

**MOE is high, use county estimate.

Individuals and Families Below Poverty Level, 2018-2022²

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Population ^a	508	+/-120	14,423	+/-15
Below poverty	**%	+/-**%	6.9%	+/-1.5%
17 and under	**%	+/-**%	6.7%	+/-3.2%
18 - 64	**%	+/-**%	7.6%	+/-1.6%
65+	**%	+/-**%	**%	+/-**%
All Families	**%	+/-**%	**%	+/-**%
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:

¹ U.S. Census Bureau; Decennial Censuses 1940 - 2020

² U.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.

⁴ Median is the middle value of a distribution.

⁵ The 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.