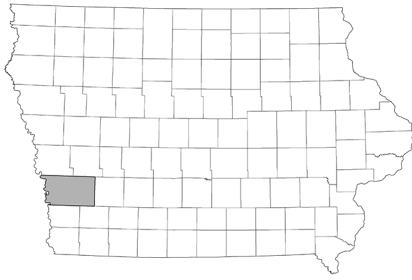# Data for Decision Makers

Council Bluffs, Iowa
City Profile

report created: 12/17/2024

Population profile

The 2020 population for Council Bluffs is 62,799. Between 2010 and 2020 the population increased by 0.9%. The City of Council Bluffs is in Pottawattamie County. Pottawattamie County saw a 0.5% population increase between 2010 and 2020.

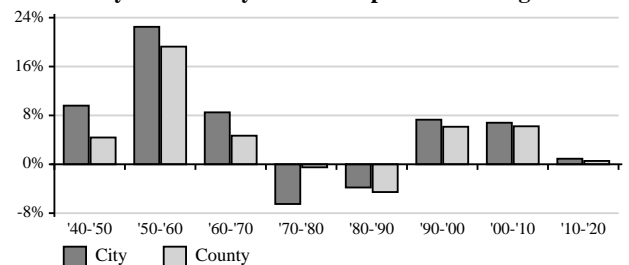### Pottawattamie County Cities - Total Population[1]

City	2000	2010	2020
Council Bluffs	**58,268**	**62,230**	**62,799**
Male Total	28,194	30,282	31,000
Female Total	30,074	31,948	31,799
Avoca	1,610	1,506	1,683
Carson	668	812	766
Carter Lake	3,248	3,785	3,791
Crescent	537	617	628
Hancock	207	196	200
Macedonia	325	246	267
McClelland	129	151	146
Minden	564	599	600
Neola	845	842	918
Oakland	1,487	1,527	1,524
Shelby[†]	696	641	727
Treynor	950	919	1,032
Underwood	688	917	954
Walnut	778	785	747
Pottawattamie County Total	87,704	93,158	93,667
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
Carter Lake	1.5%	16.5%	0.2%
Crescent	375.2%	14.9%	1.8%
McClelland	-7.2%	17.1%	-3.3%
Treynor	5.9%	-3.3%	12.3%
Underwood	33.6%	33.3%	4.0%
Council Bluffs	7.3%	6.8%	0.9%
Pottawattamie County	6.1%	6.2%	0.5%
State of Iowa	5.4%	4.1%	4.7%

City and County Percent Population Change[1]

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Council Bluffs's population is predominantly White. The City of Council Bluffs, compared to Pottawattamie County, had a lower 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]

Race Groups	City 2010	City 2020	County 2010	County 2020
One race only	97.6%	93.1%	98.1%	94.1%
White	90.9%	83.7%	92.9%	86.8%
White alone, not Hispanic	86.9%	80.9%	89.7%	84.5%
Black or African American	1.9%	2.7%	1.4%	2.0%
Asian	0.7%	1.0%	0.6%	0.8%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.6%	0.9%	0.5%	0.7%
Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%
Other	3.6%	4.7%	2.7%	3.6%
Two or more races	2.4%	6.9%	1.9%	5.9%
Hispanic origin[a]	8.5%	10.4%	6.6%	8.2%

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

Households by Family or Nonfamily Type[1,3]

	City 2010	City 2020	County 2010	County 2020
Total households	24,793	25,271	36,775	37,284
Family households[a,b]	62.6%	58.1%	66.7%	64.8%
Married couple family[b]	41.4%	44.9%	48.5%	46.0%
With own children	15.8%	14.2%	18.0%	16.3%
Other family[c]	21.2%	21.4%	18.2%	18.8%
Male householder[c]	6.2%	6.7%	5.6%	6.1%
With own children	3.3%	3.3%	3.0%	3.1%
Female householder[c]	15.0%	14.7%	12.6%	12.7%
With own children	8.9%	8.2%	7.3%	7.0%
Nonfamily households[d]	37.4%	41.9%	33.3%	35.2%
Male living alone	12.9%	14.7%	11.8%	13.5%
Female living alone	17.2%	17.3%	15.2%	15.3%

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

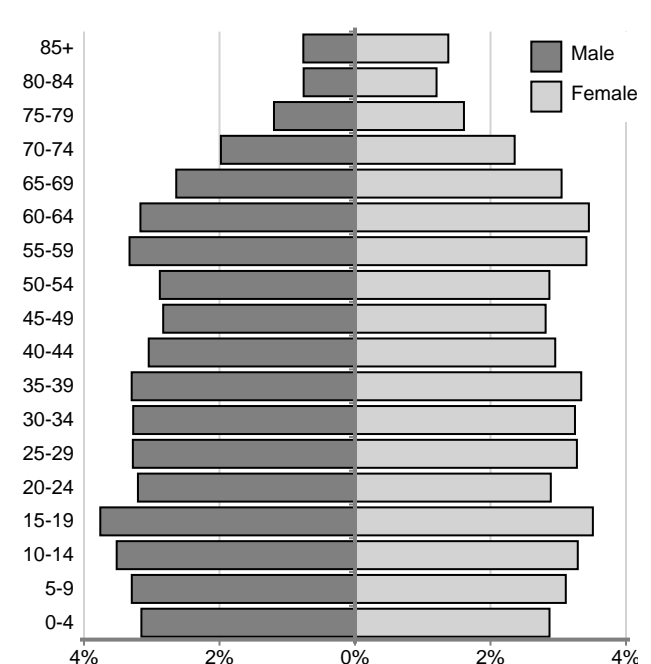|	City 2010	City 2020	County 2010	County 2020
Total households	24,793	25,271	36,775	37,284
Married couple[b]	41.4%	44.9%	48.5%	46.0%
Cohabiting couple[b,f]	NA[e]	8.9%	NA[e]	7.7%
Male householder [g]	NA[e]	21.3%	NA[e]	19.5%
Female householder [g]	NA[e]	30.6%	NA[e]	26.8%

[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]

Age Groups	City 2010	City 2020	County 2010	County 2020
17 or younger	24.1%	23.1%	24.1%	23.3%
0 - 4	7.3%	6.0%	6.8%	5.9%
5 - 9	6.7%	6.4%	6.7%	6.4%
10 - 14	6.2%	6.8%	6.6%	6.9%
15 - 17	3.9%	3.9%	4.0%	4.1%
18 - 24	10.8%	9.5%	9.4%	8.5%
25 - 44	26%	25.7%	24.5%	24.1%
45 - 64	25.6%	24.7%	27.7%	26%
65 or older	13.5%	16.9%	14.3%	18.1%
65 - 84	11.5%	14.8%	12.3%	16%
85 or older	2%	2.1%	2.0%	2.1%
Median[4] Age (years)	35.9	38.3	38.5	40.1
Age Dependency[a, 5]	60.2	66.8	62.3	70.6
Old-Age	21.6	28.2	23.2	30.9
Child	38.6	38.6	39.1	39.8

[a]*Age Dependency Ratio*

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

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

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Households	25,479	+/- 457	37,162	+/- 466
Less than $34,999	29.2%	+/- 2.1%	25.8%	+/- 1.8%
$35,000 To $49,999	11.3%	+/- 1.3%	10.4%	+/- 1.0%
$50,000 To $99,999	33.0%	+/- 1.8%	32.1%	+/- 1.6%
$100,000 Or More	26.6%	+/- 1.8%	31.7%	+/- 1.6%
Median[4] Household Income	$61,181	+/- $3,233	$68,718	+/- $1,923
Median Family Income	$74,876	+/- $4,405	$84,320	+/- $3,294
Per Capita Income	$31,946	+/- $1,032	$34,701	+/- $985

Housing Characteristics, 2018-2022[2]

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Units	27,338	+/- 347	39,914	+/- 62
Vacant	6.8%	+/- 1.4%	6.9%	+/- 1.2%
Occupied	93.2%	+/- 1.4%	93.1%	+/- 1.2%
Occupied[a]	25,479	+/- 457	37,162	+/- 466
Owner	63.4%	+/- 1.8%	69.6%	+/- 1.4%
Renter	36.6%	+/- 1.8%	30.4%	+/- 1.4%
Rent[b]	$964	+/- $24	$956	+/- $25
Value[c]	$153,400	+/-$3,958	$169,400	+/-$3,065

[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	42,533	+/-513	63,639	+/-149
High School Graduate or Higher	88.5%	+/-1.3%	90.6%	+/-0.9%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	21.4%	+/-1.4%	23.4%	+/-1.1%

*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.
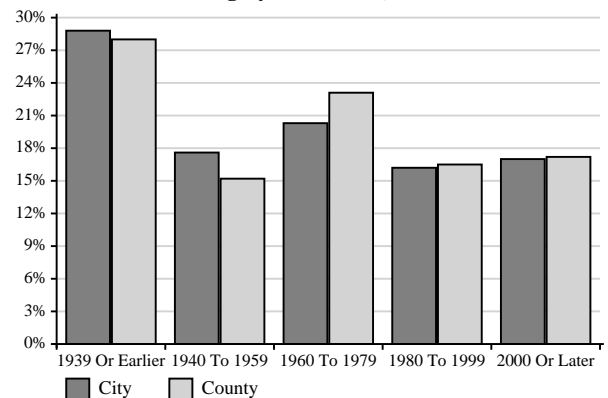***MOE is high, use county estimate.*

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

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

In Council Bluffs 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 17.8% of occupations of the civilian employed population in the city.

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	30,688	+/- 670	45,815	+/- 793
Management, business, science, and arts	33.4%	+/- 2.1%	34.5%	+/- 1.6%
Service	19.0%	+/- 1.6%	17.2%	+/- 1.2%
Sales and office	20.7%	+/- 1.7%	21.3%	+/- 1.3%
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance	9.1%	+/- 1.1%	10.4%	+/- 1.0%
Production, transportation, and material moving	17.8%	+/- 1.8%	16.7%	+/- 1.4%

Council Bluffs has a lower proportion of the population age 16 or older in the labor force than Pottawattamie 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 Council Bluffs tend to be lower than the median earnings for Pottawattamie 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]	33,485	+/- 681	49,747	+/- 808
Median Earnings	$38,060	+/- $38	$40,680	+/- $994
Female	$33,730	+/- $1,360	$35,476	+/- $1,120
Female, full time[b]	$42,204	+/- $2,246	$45,983	+/- $1,147
Male	$44,902	+/- $2,390	$47,375	+/- $1,753
Male, full time[b]	$54,525	+/- $2,272	$56,535	+/- $1,575

[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+	50,522	+/- 431	74,514	+/- 185
in labor force	63.5%	+/- 1.3%	63.8%	+/- 1.0%
not in labor force	36.5%	+/- 1.3%	36.2%	+/- 1.0%
Civilian labor force	32,018	+/- 690	47,502	+/- 760
Unemployed	4.2%	+/- 0.7%	3.6%	+/- 0.5%

**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]	61,901	+/-70	92,357	+/-71
With a disability[b]	16.7%	+/-1.2%	15.2%	+/-0.8%
With Health Insurance	94.2%	+/-0.8%	94.8%	+/-0.6%
With Private[c] Coverage	64.4%	+/-2.0%	68.3%	+/-1.5%
With Public[d] Coverage	41.7%	+/-1.8%	39.2%	+/-1.3%
No Health Insurance	5.8%	+/-0.8%	5.2%	+/-0.6%

[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]	60,711	+/-133	91,067	+/-152
Below poverty	13.6%	+/-1.4%	11.3%	+/-1.1%
17 and under	19.9%	+/-4.3%	15.6%	+/-3.1%
18 - 64	12.1%	+/-1.3%	10.4%	+/-1.0%
65+	10.4%	+/-2.4%	8.9%	+/-1.7%
All Families	9.8%	+/-1.7%	8.0%	+/-1.3%
with children	16.3%	+/-3.7%	13.3%	+/-2.7%
Married Couple	4.0%	+/-1.4%	3.1%	+/-0.9%
with children	**%	+/-**%	4.0%	+/-1.9%
Female HH[b]	23.8%	+/-4.9%	24.3%	+/-4.6%
with children	30.8%	+/-7.0%	30.4%	+/-6.2%

[a] *for whom poverty status is determined,* [b] *female householder, no husband present,* **MOE is high, use county estimate.*

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Community and Economic Development   **Data for Decision Makers**