Data for Decision Makers



Rock Rapids, Iowa City Profile

report created: 12/17/2024

Population profile

The 2020 population for Rock Rapids is 2,611. Between 2010 and 2020 the population increased by 2.4%. The City of Rock Rapids is in Lyon County. Lyon County saw a 3.0% population increase between 2010 and 2020.

Lyon County Cities - Total Population¹

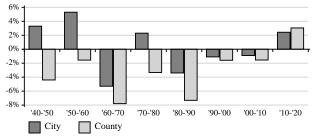
Lyon County Clues - Total Population						
City	2000	2010	2020			
Rock Rapids	2,573	2,549	2,611			
Male Total	1,203	1,200	1,284			
Female Total	1,370	1,349	1,327			
Alvord	187	196	206			
Doon	533	577	619			
George	1,051	1,080	1,077			
Inwood	875	814	928			
Larchwood	788	866	926			
Lester	251	294	296			
Little Rock	489	459	439			
Lyon County Total	11,763	11,581	11,934			
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
Alvord	-8.3%	4.8%	5.1%
Doon	12.0%	8.3%	7.3%
George	-1.4%	2.8%	-0.3%
Larchwood	6.6%	9.9%	6.9%
Lester	-2.3%	17.1%	0.7%
Rock Rapids	-1.1%	-0.9%	2.4%
Lyon County	-1.6%	1.5%	3.0%
State of Iowa	5.4%	4.1%	4.7%

City and County Percent Population Change¹



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Rock Rapids's population is predominantly White. The City of Rock Rapids, compared to Lyon 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

	C	City	Co	unty
Race Groups	2010	2020	2010	2020
One race only	99.4%	96.9%	99.4%	97.2%
White	98.2%	94.1%	97.9%	94.4%
White alone, not Hispanic	97.3%	93.4%	97.3%	93.6%
Black or African American	0.2%	0.5%	0.1%	0.3%
Asian	0.1%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.1%	0.4%	0.1%	0.3%
Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%
Other	0.8%	1.6%	1.1%	1.6%
Two or more races	0.6%	3.1%	0.6%	2.8%
Hispanic origin ^a	1.8%	3.5%	1.8%	3.4%

^a Hispanics can be of any race.

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

		•	• •	
		City	C	County
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total households	1,083	1,049	4,442	4,466
Family households ^{a,b}	63.6%	66.3%	72.9%	70.8%
Married couple family ^b	53.2%	45.0%	64.6%	61.8%
With own children	20.9%	21.4%	27.1%	26.2%
Other family ^c	10.4%	10.3%	8.2%	9.0%
Male householder ^c	2.4%	3.1%	2.9%	3.8%
With own children	1.7%	2.0%	1.7%	1.9%
Female householder ^c	8.0%	7.1%	5.3%	5.3%
With own children	5.3%	4.3%	3.3%	3.6%
Nonfamily households ^d	36.4%	33.8%	27.1%	29.2%
Male living alone	11.8%	14.3%	11.1%	13.1%
Female living alone	21.9%	18.6%	13.5%	12.8%

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

		City		ounty
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total households	1,083	1,049	4,442	4,466
Married couple ^b	53.2%	45.0%	64.6%	61.8%
Cohabiting couple ^{b,f}	NA ^e	4.1%	NA ^e	3.7%
Male householder g	NA^e	17.6%	NA^e	16.8%
Female householder ^g	NA ^e	25.0%	NA ^e	17.8%

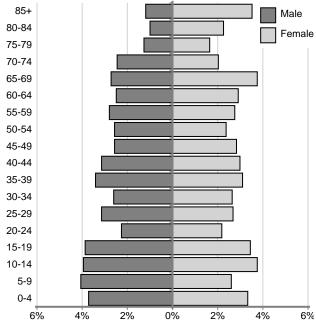
^aHouseholder and at least one other person related to the householder. ^bFor 2020 includes same-sex couples. ^cNo spouse present, but at least one relative present. ^dIn 2010 included same-sex couples whether married or not (if no relatives present). ^e2010 not comparable with 2020. ^fFor 2020 householder 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	24.4%	26.7%	27.7%	28.9%
0 - 4	6.6%	7.0%	8.0%	7.9%
5 - 9	7.3%	6.7%	7.9%	7.8%
10 - 14	6.1%	7.7%	7.3%	8.2%
15 - 17	4.4%	5.3%	4.5%	5%
18 - 24	6.3%	6.4%	6.6%	7.1%
25 - 44	23%	23.6%	22.9%	23.1%
45 - 64	24.6%	21.3%	26.0%	22.4%
65 or older	21.9%	21.8%	16.8%	18.4%
65 - 84	16.1%	17.2%	13.7%	15.4%
85 or older	5.8%	4.7%	3.1%	3.0%
Median ⁴ Age (years)	42.1	39.3	38.7	37.7
Age Dependency ^{a, 5}	86.1	94.5	80.2	89.9
Old-Age	40.7	42.5	30.3	35.0
Child	45.4	52.0	49.9	54.9

^aAge Dependency Ratio

Rock Rapids, Iowa Population Pyramid, 2020¹



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

Socioeconomic Profile

Rock Rapids, Iowa

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

Median Household and Per Capita Income, 2018-2022²

		City	Co	ounty
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Households	950	+/- 61	4,412	+/- 106
Less than \$34,999	17.8%	+/- 3.0%	16.9%	+/- 2.2%
\$35,000 To \$49,999	14.9%	+/- 4.6%	13.6%	+/- 2.5%
\$50,000 To \$99,999	36.8%	+/- 3.5%	37.6%	+/- 2.4%
\$100,000 Or More	30.4%	+/- 3.4%	31.9%	+/- 2.5%
Median ⁴ Household Income	\$67,625	+/- \$10,668	\$73,735	+/- \$4,042
Median Family Income	\$77,464	+/- \$17,337	\$86,215	+/- \$6,245
Per Capita Income	\$30,853	+/- \$2,684	\$33,428	+/- \$2,064

Educational Attainment, 2018-2022²

	(City	County		
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*	
Population 25 and older	1,685	+/-93	7,724	+/-38	
High School Graduate or Higher	92.9%	+/-2.7%	94.7%	+/-1%	
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	21.1%	+/-4.2%	19.4%	+/-2.3%	

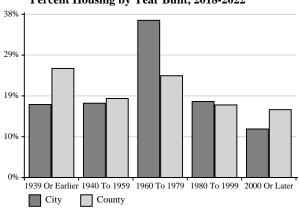
^{*}MOE = the margin of error for American Community Survey estimates² which is a numerical value that when added to or subtracted from the point estimate value gives the range of a 90% confidence interval around the estimate.

Housing Characteristics, 2018-2022²

		City	С	ounty
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Units	1,133	+/- 91	4,853	+/- 52
Vacant	16.2%	+/- 5.4%	9.1%	+/- 1.9%
Occupied	83.8%	+/- 5.4%	90.9%	+/- 1.9%
Occupied ^a	950	+/- 61	4,412	+/- 106
Owner	78.8%	+/- 5.9%	83.9%	+/- 2.5%
Renter	21.2%	+/- 5.9%	16.1%	+/- 2.5%
Rent ^b	\$766	+/- \$90	\$776	+/- \$17
Value ^c	\$197,500	+/-\$14,533	\$190,800	+/-\$15,013

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

Percent Housing by Year Built, 2018-2022²



In Rock Rapids 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 20.1% of occupations of the civilian employed population in the city.

Occupation of the Civilian Employed Population, 2018-2022²

	City		Cou	inty
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	1,160	+/- 116	5,845	+/- 204
Management, business, science, and arts	35.5%	+/- 7.0%	37.6%	+/- 3.1%
Service	18.9%	+/- 7.1%	13.6%	+/- 2.4%
Sales and office	17.3%	+/- 4.6%	20.4%	+/- 2.7%
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance	8.2%	+/- 3.3%	10.7%	+/- 1.8%
Production, transportation, and material moving	20.1%	+/- 6.1%	17.7%	+/- 2.2%

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

Socioeconomic Profile

Rock Rapids, Iowa

Rock Rapids has a lower proportion of the population age 16 or older in the labor force than Lyon 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 Rock Rapids tend to be higher than the median earnings for Lyon 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	1,288	+/- 115	6,378	+/- 188	
Median Earnings	\$44,904	+/- \$44	\$41,591	+/- \$2,809	
Female	\$35,372	+/- \$4,202	\$31,855	+/- \$3,008	
Female, full time ^b	\$50,595	+/- \$7,917	\$46,816	+/- \$5,266	
Male	\$48,981	+/- \$8,645	\$48,143	+/- \$2,807	
Male, full time ^b	\$58,875	+/- \$7,976	\$57,411	+/- \$1,894	

^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	2,528	+/-33	11,837	+/-31
With a disability ^b	14.0%	+/-4.0%	12.6%	+/-1.8%
With Health Insurance	93.5%	+/-2.9%	95.2%	+/-1.2%
With Private ^c Coverage	71.1%	+/-6.5%	76.6%	+/-3.0%
With Public ^d Coverage	37.4%	+/-6.1%	34.2%	+/-2.8%
No Health Insurance	6.5%	+/-2.9%	4.8%	+/-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+	1,917	+/- 84	8,977	+/- 69
in labor force	63.1%	+/- 5.4%	66.8%	+/- 2.0%
not in labor force	36.9%	+/- 5.4%	33.2%	+/- 2.0%
Civilian labor force	1,210	+/- 119	5,990	+/- 195
Unemployed	4.1%	+/- 3.4%	2.4%	+/- 0.9%

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

Individuals and Families Below Poverty Level, 2018-2022²

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Population ^a	2,524	+/-34	11,838	+/-29
Below poverty	**%	+/-**%	3.9%	+/-0.9%
17 and under	**%	+/-**%	**%	+/-**%
18 - 64	**%	+/-**%	3.4%	+/-1.0%
65+	**%	+/-**%	7.3%	+/-2.3%
All Families	**%	+/-**%	2.5%	+/-0.9%
with children	**%	+/-**%	**%	+/-**%
Married Couple	**%	+/-**%	1.7%	+/-0.8%
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.
- 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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^{*}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.