Data for Decision Makers



Lee County County Profile

report created: 12/13/2024

Population profile

Lee County is a micropolitan county in southeast Iowa. It is composed of eight incorporated communities and their surrounding rural areas. From 2010 to 2020, Lee County's population decreased by 6.43% while the state's population increased by 4.73%.

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Total	Popu	lation ¹

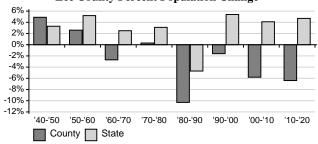
Total Population ¹								
Totals	2000	2010	2020					
Lee County	38,052	35,862	33,555					
Male Total	18,822	18,131	16,829					
Female Total	19,230	17,731	16,726					
City								
Donnellson	963	912	885					
Fort Madison	10,715	11,051	10,270					
Franklin	136	143	131					
Houghton	130	146	141					
Keokuk	11,427	10,780	9,900					
Montrose	957	898	738					
St. Paul	118	129	109					
West Point	980	966	921					
State Total	2,926,324	3,046,355	3,190,369					

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

Neighboring Counties - Percent Population Change¹

County	'90-'00	'00-'10	'10-'20
Clark, MO	-1.74%	-3.74%	-7.07%
Des Moines, IA	-0.62%	-4.78%	-3.51%
Hancock, IL	-5.86%	-5.05%	-7.77%
Henderson, IL	1.45%	-10.74%	-12.88%
Henry, IA	5.77%	-0.94%	1.67%
Lee, IA	-1.64%	-5.76%	-6.43%
Van Buren, IA	1.73%	-3.06%	-4.85%
State of Iowa	5.39%	4.10%	4.73%

Lee County Percent Population Change¹



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As with the other 98 counties in the state, Lee County's population is predominantly white. The percentage of the population of Hispanic origin increased between 2010 and 2020. In 2020, Lee County had a lower percentage of those 17 or younger than the state. New household relationship categories were reported for 2020 that are not comparable with 2010³.

Percentage of Population by Race/Hispanic Origin¹

	County		State	
Race Groups	2010	2020	2010	2020
One race only	98.1%	94.7%	98.2%	94.4%
White	93.5%	90.4%	91.3%	84.5%
White alone, not Hispanic	91.6%	89.1%	88.7%	82.7%
Black or African American	3.1%	2.7%	2.9%	4.1%
Asian	0.5%	0.4%	1.7%	2.4%
American Indian	0.2%	0.2%	0.4%	0.5%
Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.2%
Other	0.7%	0.9%	1.8%	2.8%
Two or more races	1.9%	5.3%	1.8%	5.6%
Hispanic origin ^a	3.0%	3.3%	5.0%	6.8%

^aHispanics can be of any race.

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

	Co	unty		State
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total households	14,610	14,036	1,221,576	1,288,560
Family households ^{a,b}	65.6%	63.0%	64.7%	63.0%
Married couple family ^b	49.5%	46.5%	51.2%	48.5%
With own children	16.1%	14.0%	20.0%	18.2%
Other family ^c	16.1%	16.6%	13.5%	14.4%
Male householder ^c	5.0%	5.5%	4.2%	4.9%
With own children	3.1%	3.2%	2.5%	2.7%
Female householder ^c	11.1%	11.0%	9.3%	9.6%
With own children	6.7%	6.1%	5.9%	5.7%
Nonfamily households ^d	34.4%	37.0%	35.3%	37.0%
Male living alone	13.4%	15.0%	12.8%	14.2%
Female living alone	15.8%	16.5%	15.7%	15.8%

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

	C	County		State
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total households	14,610	14,036	1,221,576	1,288,560
Married couple ^b	49.5%	46.5%	51.2%	48.5%
Cohabiting couple ^{b,f}	NA ^e	7.6%	NA ^e	7.1%
Male householderg	NA ^e	19.7%	NA ^e	19.5%
Female householder ^g	NA ^e	26.2%	NA ^e	24.9%

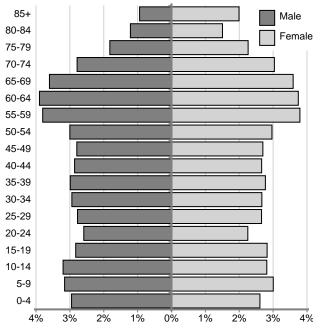
^aHouseholder and at least one other person related to the householder. ^bFor 2020 includes same-sex couples. ^cNo spouse present, but at least one relative present. ^dIn 2010 included same-sex couples whether married or not (if no relatives present). ^e2010 not comparable with 2020. ^fFor 2020 householder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

	Cou	nty	Sta	ite
Age Groups	2010	2020	2010	2020
17 or younger	22.2%	21.3%	23.9%	23.2%
0 - 4	5.8%	5.6%	6.6%	6.0%
5 - 9	5.8%	6.2%	6.6%	6.5%
10 - 14	6.4%	6.0%	6.6%	6.8%
15 -17	4.2%	3.5%	4.1%	3.9%
18 - 24	7.8%	7.0%	10.0%	9.8%
25 - 44	23.1%	22.3%	24.5%	24.6%
45 - 64	30.0%	26.7%	26.7%	24.5%
65 or older	16.9%	22.8%	14.9%	18.0%
65 - 84	14.1%	19.8%	12.4%	15.6%
85 or older	2.8%	2.9%	2.5%	2.4%
Median ⁴ age (years)	42.6	44.4	38.1	38.6
Age dependency ^{a,5}	64.2	78.8	63.4	69.9
Old-Age	27.8	40.7	24.3	30.6
Child	36.5	38.0	39.1	39.4

^aAge Dependency Ratio.

Lee County Population Pyramid^a, 2020¹



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

The median household income in Lee County is less than the median household income of the state. More households in Lee County are in the \$50,000 to \$99,999 household income group while more of Iowa households are in the \$100,000 or more household income group. The median value of owner-occupied housing can vary among counties. The median value of owner-occupied housing units is lower in Lee County than for the state. There is a higher percentage of vacant housing units in Lee County than there is for the state. Many housing units in Lee County were built prior to 1940. Lee County has a lower percentage of college graduates than does the state.

Median⁴ Household and Per Capita Income, 2018-2022²

	C	ounty	St	ate
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total households	14,246	+/- 251	1,290,139	+/- 4,032
Less than \$14,999	10.4%	+/- 1.5%	7.8%	+/- 0.4%
\$15,000 to \$34,999	19.0%	+/- 1.7%	15.2%	+/- 0.6%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	14.9%	+/- 2.0%	11.9%	+/- 0.2%
\$50,000 to \$99,999	33.0%	+/- 2.0%	32.2%	+/- 0.6%
\$100,000 Or More	22.6%	+/- 2.1%	32.9%	+/- 0.8%
Median ⁴ household income	\$58,094	+/- \$3,250	\$70,571	+/- \$395
Median ⁴ family income	\$75,154	+/- \$4,013	\$90,921	+/- \$579
Per capita income	\$32,465	+/- \$2,016	\$37,949	+/- \$241

Educational Attainment, 2018-2022²

	Co	County		County S		ate
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*		
Population 25 and older	23,857	+/-138	2,131,202	+/-967		
High school graduate or higher	94.1%	+/-0.8%	93.0%	+/-0.1%		
Bachelor's degree or higher	20.3%	+/-2.0%	30.3%	+/-0.3%		

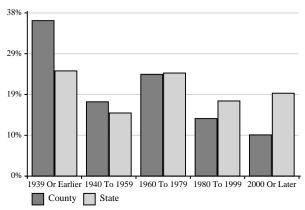
^{*}MOE = the margin of error for American Community Survey estimates² which is a numerical value that when added to or subtracted from the point estimate value gives the range of a 90% confidence interval around the estimate.

Housing Characteristics, 2018-2022²

	C	ounty	5	State
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total units	15,869	+/- 63	1,417,064	+/- 977
Vacant	10.2%	+/- 1.6%	9.0%	+/- 0.3%
Occupied	89.8%	+/- 1.6%	91.0%	+/- 0.3%
Occupied ^a	14,246	+/- 251	1,290,139	+/- 4,032
Owner	75.7%	+/- 2.2%	71.5%	+/- 0.3%
Renter	24.3%	+/- 2.2%	28.5%	+/- 0.3%
Median ⁴ rent ^b	\$782	+/- \$41	\$914	+/- \$6
Median value ^c	\$121,000	+/- \$6,253	\$181,600	+/- \$1,035

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

Percent Housing by Year Built, 2018-2022²



In Lee County there is a higher percentage of workers in management, business, science, and arts occupations than any other occupation category while the production, transportation, and material moving occupation category makes up 19.7% of occupations of the civilian employed population in the county.

Occupation of the Civilian Employed Population, 2018-2022²

	Cor	unty	State		
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*	
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	15,022	+/- 485	1,627,434	+/- 5,740	
Management, business, science, and arts	33.7%	+/- 2.2%	38.1%	+/- 0.3%	
Service	18.2%	+/- 2.1%	15.5%	+/- 0.2%	
Sales and office	18.4%	+/- 2.0%	19.7%	+/- 0.2%	
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance	10.1%	+/- 1.6%	9.5%	+/- 0.2%	
Production, transportation, and material moving	19.7%	+/- 2.0%	17.2%	+/- 0.2%	

Lee County has a lower proportion of the population age 16 or older in the labor force than the state. A portion of those who are not in the labor force are people who are retired. The percent unemployed in Lee County is higher than that for the state overall. Earnings data are provided for the population 16 and over who have earnings. Median⁴ earnings in Lee County tend to be lower than the median earnings for the state. There is a higher percentage of families in Lee County below poverty level than for the state. Families with children tend to have a higher rate of poverty than families without children.

Employment Status, 2018-2022²

	Co	unty	S	State
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population 16+	27,019	+/- 78	2,544,719	+/- 1,266
In labor force	58.4%	+/- 1.7%	66.6%	+/- 0.2%
Not in labor force	41.6%	+/- 1.7%	33.4%	+/- 0.2%
Civilian labor force	15,743	+/- 462	1,692,129	+/- 5,407
Unemployed	4.6%	+/- 1.1%	3.8%	+/- 0.1%

Individuals Below Poverty Level by Race, 2018-2022²

	County		State	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total population ^a	32,055	+/-134	3,088,999	+/-950
Percent below	12.8%	+/-0.2%	11.1%	+/-0.2%
White alone	12.3%	+/-1.8%	9.7%	+/-0.2%
Black/African American alone	**%	+/-**%	30.5%	+/-1.9%
Asian/Pacific Islander alone	**%	+/-**%	13.6%	+/-1.4%
American Indian alone	**%	+/-**%	27.6%	+/-4%
Hawaiian alone	**%	+/-**%	33.1%	+/-8.5%
Other race alone	**%	+/-**%	16.6%	+/-2.3%
Two or more races	15.1%	+/-6.6%	17.6%	+/-1.3%
Hispanic origin ^b	**%	+/-**%	17.4%	+/-1.1%

^afor whom poverty status is determined, ^bHispanics can be of any race. **MOE is high, use state estimate.

Median⁴ Employment Earnings, 2018-2022²

	County		State	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population 16+ ^a	16,826	+/- 470	1,799,851	+/- 5,338
Median earnings	\$35,668+/-	\$2,403	\$40,905	+/- \$219
Female	\$27,536+/-	\$3,190	\$33,724	+/- \$250
Male	\$45,269+/-	\$1,926	\$48,115	+/- \$407
Female, full time ^b	\$41,647 +/-	\$2,965	\$47,128	+/- \$238
Male, full time ^b	\$53,203 +/-	\$2,348	\$59,875	+/- \$356

^awith earnings. ^byear round.

Individuals and Families Below Poverty Level, 2018-2022²

	County		State		
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*	
Total population ^a	32,055	+/-134	3,088,999	+/-950	
Below poverty	12.8%	+/-0.2%	11.1%	+/-0.2%	
17 and under	18.9%	+/-4.4%	13%	+/-0.4%	
18 - 64	12.5%	+/-1.9%	11.4%	+/-0.2%	
65+	7.2%	+/-1.7%	7.7%	+/-0.2%	
All families	8.5%	+/-1.8%	7%	+/-0.2%	
With children	16.8%	+/-4%	11.5%	+/-0.4%	
Married couple	4.2%	+/-1.6%	3.2%	+/-0.1%	
With children	**%	+/-**%	4.1%	+/-0.3%	
Female HH ^b	27%	+/-6%	25.4%	+/-1%	
With children	39.4%	+/-8.7%	32.4%	+/-1.4%	
<i>a</i>		h.			

^afor whom poverty status is determined, ^bfemale householder, no spouse present, **MOE is high. Use state 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. In this profile, the 2020 data are reported, but items for 2010 are omitted.
- 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.