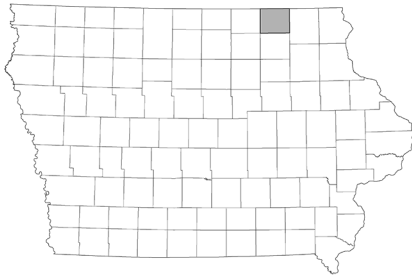


# Data for Decision Makers



## Elma, Iowa City Profile

report created: 12/17/2024

### Population profile

The 2020 population for Elma is 505. Between 2010 and 2020 the population decreased by 7.5%. The City of Elma is in Howard County. Howard County saw a 1.0% population decrease between 2010 and 2020.

Howard County Cities - Total Population<sup>1</sup>

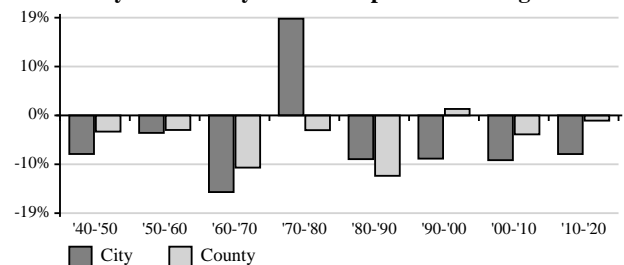
City	2000	2010	2020
<b>Elma</b>	<b>598</b>	<b>546</b>	<b>505</b>
Male Total	281	260	247
Female Total	317	286	258
Chester	151	127	139
Cresco	3,905	3,868	3,888
Lime Springs	496	505	473
Protivin <sup>†</sup>	317	283	269
Riceville <sup>†</sup>	840	785	806
Howard County Total	9,932	9,566	9,469
State of Iowa Total	2,926,324	3,046,355	3,190,369

<sup>†</sup> City is located in multiple counties, total population is provided.

Neighboring Cities - Percent Population Change

	'90-'00	'00-'10	'10-'20
Alta Vista	16.3%	-7.0%	-14.7%
Bassett	0.0%	-10.8%	-31.8%
Colwell	-19.1%	-3.9%	-24.7%
North Washington	10.3%	-0.8%	-4.3%
Riceville	1.6%	-6.5%	2.7%
Elma	-8.4%	-8.7%	-7.5%
Howard County	1.3%	3.7%	-1.0%
State of Iowa	5.4%	4.1%	4.7%

City and County Percent Population Change<sup>1</sup>



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# Demographic Profile

# Elma, Iowa

Elma's population is predominantly White. The City of Elma, compared to Howard 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.<sup>3</sup>

**Percentage of Population by Race/Hispanic Origin<sup>1</sup>**

Race Groups	City		County	
	2010	2020	2010	2020
One race only	97.8%	97.0%	99.2%	96.7%
White	96.3%	96.0%	98.1%	94.4%
White alone, not Hispanic	94.9%	95.4%	97.4%	93.9%
Black or African American	1.3%	0.0%	0.3%	0.2%
Asian	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.3%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.5%
Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%
Other	0.0%	0.8%	0.4%	1.2%
Two or more races	2.2%	3.0%	0.8%	3.3%
Hispanic origin <sup>a</sup>	1.5%	2.2%	1.2%	2.7%

<sup>a</sup> Hispanics can be of any race.

**Households by Family or Nonfamily Type<sup>1,3</sup>**

	City		County	
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total households	240	238	3,944	3,945
Family households <sup>a,b</sup>	59.2%	58.2%	64.6%	62.2%
Married couple family <sup>b</sup>	49.6%	45.6%	53.3%	50.7%
With own children	14.2%	10.5%	20.3%	18.6%
Other family <sup>c</sup>	9.6%	16.0%	11.3%	11.5%
Male householder <sup>c</sup>	2.9%	10.5%	4.4%	5.5%
With own children	1.7%	8.4%	2.7%	3.5%
Female householder <sup>c</sup>	6.7%	5.5%	6.9%	6.1%
With own children	4.6%	4.6%	4.8%	3.5%
Nonfamily households <sup>d</sup>	40.8%	41.8%	35.4%	37.8%
Male living alone	15.0%	19.3%	14.1%	16.9%
Female living alone	19.6%	20.6%	16.2%	16.1%

**Households by Couple or Non-couple Type<sup>1,3</sup>**

	City		County	
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Total households	240	238	3,944	3,945
Married couple <sup>b</sup>	49.6%	45.6%	53.3%	50.7%
Cohabiting couple <sup>b,f</sup>	NA <sup>e</sup>	7.6%	NA <sup>e</sup>	6.8%
Male householder <sup>g</sup>	NA <sup>e</sup>	25.6%	NA <sup>e</sup>	21.1%
Female householder <sup>g</sup>	NA <sup>e</sup>	25.2%	NA <sup>e</sup>	21.4%

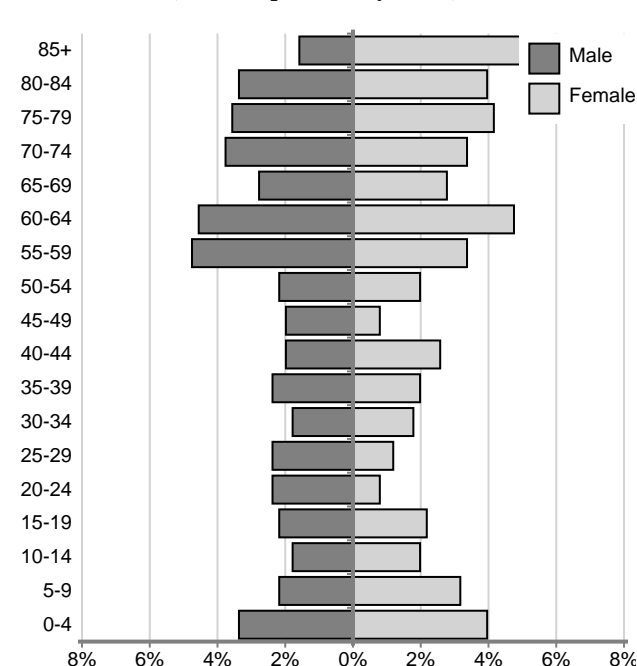
<sup>a</sup>Householder and at least one other person related to the householder. <sup>b</sup>For 2020 includes same-sex couples. <sup>c</sup>No spouse present, but at least one relative present. <sup>d</sup>In 2010 included same-sex couples whether married or not (if no relatives present). <sup>e</sup>2010 not comparable with 2020. <sup>f</sup>For 2020 householder has an unmarried partner. <sup>g</sup>For 2020 no spouse or partner present, but relatives, nonrelatives may be present or householder may be living alone.

**Percentage of Population by Age<sup>1</sup>**

Age Groups	City		County	
	2010	2020	2010	2020
17 or younger	19.8%	20.2%	25.2%	25.1%
0 - 4	4.9%	7.3%	7.2%	6.7%
5 - 9	5.5%	5.3%	6.8%	6.7%
10 - 14	4.4%	3.8%	6.7%	7.4%
15 - 17	5%	3.8%	4.5%	4.3%
18 - 24	3.7%	3.8%	6.5%	6.4%
25 - 44	16.5%	16.2%	21.7%	22.4%
45 - 64	29.7%	24.4%	27.3%	25%
65 or older	30.4%	35.6%	19.3%	21.3%
65 - 84	23.1%	27.6%	15.5%	17.7%
85 or older	7.3%	7.9%	3.8%	3.5%
Median <sup>4</sup> Age (years)	51.3	57.2	42.1	41.7
Age Dependency <sup>a, 5</sup>	100.8	125.7	80.2	86.2
Old-Age	61.0	80.2	34.8	39.6
Child	39.8	45.5	45.4	46.7

<sup>a</sup>Age Dependency Ratio

**Elma, Iowa Population Pyramid,<sup>a</sup> 2020<sup>1</sup>**



<sup>a</sup>Each bar represents the percentage that an age-sex group comprises of the total population.

## Socioeconomic Profile

## Elma, Iowa

The median household income in Elma is less than the median household income of Howard County. The median value of owner-occupied housing units is lower in Elma than for Howard County. There is a lower percentage of vacant housing units in Elma than there is for Howard County. Many housing units in Elma were built prior to 1940.

**Median Household and Per Capita Income, 2018-2022<sup>2</sup>**

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Households	257	+/- 68	3,636	+/- 183
Less than \$34,999	45.9%	+/- 5.7%	23.2%	+/- 2.8%
\$35,000 To \$49,999	16.7%	+/- 9.0%	13.8%	+/- 3.3%
\$50,000 To \$99,999	31.1%	+/- 3.8%	36.4%	+/- 2.5%
\$100,000 Or More	6.2%	+/- 3.9%	26.5%	+/- 2.6%
Median <sup>4</sup> Household Income	\$40,625	+/- \$17,353	\$63,947	+/- \$6,909
Median Family Income	\$60,714	+/- \$30,620	\$81,250	+/- \$6,353
Per Capita Income	\$22,691	+/- \$4,544	\$32,033	+/- \$3,035

**Housing Characteristics, 2018-2022<sup>2</sup>**

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Units	290	+/- 68	4,307	+/- 48
Vacant	11.4%	+/- 7.6%	15.6%	+/- 3.9%
Occupied	88.6%	+/- 7.6%	84.4%	+/- 3.9%
Occupied <sup>a</sup>	257	+/- 68	3,636	+/- 183
Owner	66.1%	+/- 14.2%	76.2%	+/- 3.9%
Renter	33.9%	+/- 14.2%	23.8%	+/- 3.9%
Rent <sup>b</sup>	\$564	+/- \$104	\$708	+/- \$122
Value <sup>c</sup>	\$70,900	+/- \$9,817	\$125,100	+/- \$10,204

<sup>a</sup>Occupied Units, <sup>b</sup>Median gross rent of renter-occupied units, <sup>c</sup>Median value of owner-occupied units

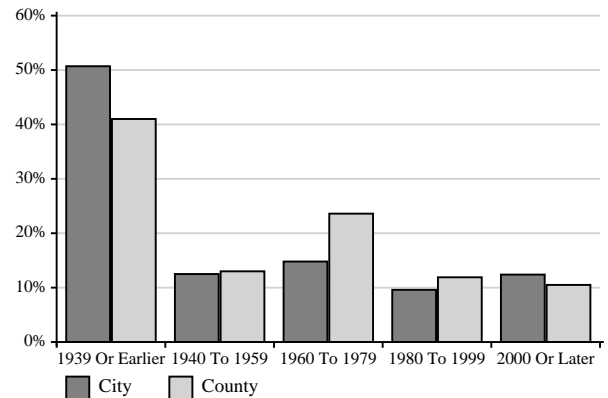
**Educational Attainment, 2018-2022<sup>2</sup>**

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population 25 and older	397	+/-74	6,381	+/-47
High School Graduate or Higher	94.7%	+/-3.5%	92%	+/-1.9%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	***%	+/-***%	19.2%	+/-3.2%

\*MOE = the margin of error for American Community Survey estimates<sup>2</sup> 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<sup>2</sup>**



In Elma there is a higher percentage of workers in production, transportation, and material moving occupations than any other occupation category. The production, transportation, and material moving occupation category makes up 31.6% of occupations of the civilian employed population in the city.

**Occupation of the Civilian Employed Population, 2018-2022<sup>2</sup>**

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	285	+/- 69	4,722	+/- 182
Management, business, science, and arts	***%	+/- ***%	27.5%	+/- 3.7%
Service	***%	+/- ***%	11.2%	+/- 2.4%
Sales and office	***%	+/- ***%	20.0%	+/- 3.1%
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance	***%	+/- ***%	16.7%	+/- 3.1%
Production, transportation, and material moving	31.6%	+/- 9.6%	24.6%	+/- 3.9%

## Socioeconomic Profile

## Elma, Iowa

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

**Median Employment Earnings, 2018-2022<sup>2</sup>**

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population 16+ <sup>a</sup>	295	+/- 69	4,995	+/- 182
Median Earnings	\$32,448	+/- \$32	\$36,635	+/- \$1,594
Female	\$33,472	+/- \$4,765	\$32,926	+/- \$2,577
Female, full time <sup>b</sup>	\$37,917	+/- \$3,716	\$40,388	+/- \$3,803
Male	\$**	+/- \$**	\$40,927	+/- \$1,860
Male, full time <sup>b</sup>	\$47,083	+/- \$13,869	\$50,735	+/- \$3,215

<sup>a</sup> with earnings, <sup>b</sup> year round, \*\*MOE is high, use county estimate.

**Disability Status and Health Insurance Coverage of the Civilian Noninstitutionalized Population, 2018-2022<sup>2</sup>**

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population <sup>a</sup>	558	+/-138	9,293	+/-8
With a disability <sup>b</sup>	13.6%	+/-4.9%	10.4%	+/-1.6%
With Health Insurance	91.0%	+/-6.0%	90.2%	+/-2.8%
With Private <sup>c</sup> Coverage	62.5%	+/-12.5%	69.0%	+/-4.3%
With Public <sup>d</sup> Coverage	52.2%	+/-11.6%	38.2%	+/-3.1%
No Health Insurance	**%	+/-**%	9.8%	+/-2.8%

<sup>a</sup>Civilian Noninstitutionalized Population, <sup>b</sup>limitations of activities or inability for full participation, <sup>c</sup>provided by employer, union, bought by individual, and some military plans, <sup>d</sup>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<sup>2</sup> 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, 2018-2022<sup>2</sup>**

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Population 16+	517	+/- 120	7,327	+/- 49
in labor force	56.5%	+/- 9.2%	65.4%	+/- 2.6%
not in labor force	43.5%	+/- 9.2%	34.6%	+/- 2.6%
Civilian labor force	292	+/- 70	4,792	+/- 189
Unemployed	2.4%	+/- 2.6%	1.5%	+/- 0.9%

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

**Individuals and Families Below Poverty Level, 2018-2022<sup>2</sup>**

	City		County	
	Estimate	MOE*	Estimate	MOE*
Total Population <sup>a</sup>	553	+/-138	9,276	+/-20
Below poverty	21.5%	+/-8.3%	8.7%	+/-3%
17 and under	**%	+/-**%	**%	+/-**%
18 - 64	**%	+/-**%	9.1%	+/-3.3%
65+	30.7%	+/-12.7%	5.9%	+/-2.8%
All Families	**%	+/-**%	**%	+/-**%
with children	**%	+/-**%	**%	+/-**%
Married Couple	**%	+/-**%	**%	+/-**%
with children	**%	+/-**%	**%	+/-**%
Female HH <sup>b</sup>	**%	+/-**%	34.0%	+/-16.8%
with children	93.8%	+/-22.2%	40.5%	+/-19.3%

<sup>a</sup> for whom poverty status is determined, <sup>b</sup> female householder, no husband present, \*\*MOE is high, use county estimate.

### Notes and Source Information:

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau; Decennial Censuses 1940 - 2020

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey 2018-2022

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> Median is the middle value of a distribution.

<sup>5</sup> 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.

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