

= Interstate 29 in Iowa =

In the U.S. state of Iowa , Interstate 29 (I @-@ 29) is a north ? south Interstate Highway which closely parallels the Missouri River . I @-@ 29 enters Iowa from Missouri near Hamburg and heads to the north @-@ northwest through the Omaha @-@ Council Bluffs and the Sioux City areas . It exits the state by crossing the Big Sioux River into South Dakota . For its entire distance through the state , it runs on the flat land between the Missouri River and the Loess Hills .

I @-@ 29 was built in sections over a period of 15 years . When there was a shortage of male workers , female workers stepped in to build a twenty @-@ mile (32 km) section near Missouri Valley . Between Council Bluffs and Sioux City , I @-@ 29 replaced U.S. Route 75 (US 75) as the major route in western Iowa . As a result of I @-@ 29 's creation , US 75 south of Sioux City was relocated into Nebraska .

= = Route description = =

Interstate 29 enters Iowa south of Hamburg . The interstate heads northwest , where it meets Iowa Highway 333 (Iowa 333) at a diamond interchange . From Hamburg , I @-@ 29 continues to the northwest for seven miles (11 km) where it meets Iowa 2 three miles (4 @.@ 8 km) east of Nebraska City , Nebraska . North of the Iowa 2 interchange , the interstate straightens out to the north ; interchanges serving Percival , Thurman , and Bartlett are spaced out every four and a half miles (7 @.@ 2 km) . At the US 34 interchange near Glenwood , I @-@ 29 is joined by US 275 .

North of Glenwood , I @-@ 29 / US 275 continue north towards Council Bluffs . The two routes meet Iowa 370 , which crosses into Nebraska providing access to Offutt Air Force Base in Bellevue , Nebraska . Near Lake Manawa , US 275 splits away from I @-@ 29 at the Iowa 92 interchange. three @-@ quarters mile (1 @.@ 2 km) north of the split , the interstate is joined from the east by Interstate 80 . The two interstates head west together through southern Council Bluffs for three miles (4 @.@ 8 km) . When the two interstates split at a Y interchange , I @-@ 80 immediately crosses the Missouri River into Nebraska , and I @-@ 29 immediately turns to the north . Two miles (3 @.@ 2 km) to the north is a modified Y interchange with US 6 and the eastern end of I @-@ 480 .

North of Council Bluffs , I @-@ 29 is joined by I @-@ 680 near Crescent . The two interstates travel north together for nine miles (14 km) before I @-@ 680 splits off to the east near Loveland . I @-@ 29 continues north for four miles (6 @.@ 4 km) to Missouri Valley , where it intersects US 30 . North of Missouri Valley , the interstate turns to the northwest towards Modale and then straightens out again south of Mondamin , where I @-@ 29 meets the western end of Iowa 127 . From Mondamin , it travels north for 23 miles (37 km) to the Iowa 175 interchange at Onawa , passing Little Sioux and Blencoe .

North of Onawa , I @-@ 29 continues northwest for fifteen miles (24 km) towards Sloan , where it meets the western end of Iowa 141 . As it approaches the Sioux City metro area , it passes the Sioux Gateway Airport at Sergeant Bluff . At the Singing Hills Boulevard interchange , northbound is joined by southbound U.S. Route 75 Business (US 75 Bus .) . One mile (1 @.@ 6 km) later , US 75 Bus. ends at the cloverleaf interchange with US 20 / US 75 , which is also the eastern end of Interstate 129 .

For the next three miles (4 @.@ 8 km) north of the I @-@ 129 interchange , I @-@ 29 runs closely , as close as 200 feet (61 m) , to the Missouri River . The interstate follows the curve of the river and turns to the west . It meets Gordon Drive , which carries US 20 Bus . US 20 Bus. traffic is directed onto the interstate for one @-@ half mile (0 @.@ 80 km) before it exits via a volleyball interchange which represents the national northern end of U.S. Route 77 . I @-@ 29 continues west along the Missouri River , and after the Big Sioux River converges into the Missouri , I @-@ 29 follows the Big Sioux . Shortly before it crosses the Big Sioux into South Dakota , Iowa 12 splits away to the north .

= = History = =

Construction of Interstate 29 began in the late 1950s in the Sioux City area . The first section to open , a three @-@ mile @-@ long (4 @.@ 8 km) stretch from the Big Sioux River to the then @-@ US 20 / US 77 bridge across the Missouri River , opened around October 1 , 1958 . In September 1961 , I @-@ 29 was extended across the Big Sioux River to South Dakota . On April 1 , 1962 , some of the northbound directional spans collapsed into the Big Sioux River at the South Dakota state line as a result of flooding and bridge scour .

North of Council Bluffs , a twenty @-@ mile (32 km) section to Missouri Valley opened in November 1958 . By December 1967 , the two sections were connected , creating 100 miles (160 km) of continuous interstate highway . Due to a shortage of male workers , at least 20 women were enlisted to help build this section of I @-@ 29 . The women were paid \$ 2 @.@ 00 hourly (\$ 14 @.@ 00 hourly in 2016 dollars) , the same wage as men would have earned .

Construction of I @-@ 29 in the Council Bluffs area was completed in 1970 and the route was open to Glenwood in the same year . Additional interchanges were added in the Sioux City and Council Bluffs areas between 1970 and 1971 . The last thirty miles (48 km) of interstate were constructed and opened in sections over the next two years ; the last section opened on December 15 , 1972 .

In 1973 , US 34 was expanded to four lanes near Glenwood , which resulted in US 34 being rerouted onto I @-@ 29 for three miles (4 @.@ 8 km) . In 2003 , US 275 was rerouted onto I @-@ 29 from the same interchange near Glenwood northward to Iowa 92 at Council Bluffs . The former US 275 alignment was turned over to Mills and Pottawattamie Counties .

Much of I @-@ 29 was built next to existing highways , most notably US 75 . When the section of I @-@ 29 opened between Council Bluffs and Missouri Valley , US 75 was rerouted onto I @-@ 29 . When construction connecting the Sioux City and Council Bluffs segments was completed , US 75 was again rerouted onto I @-@ 29 . In the mid @-@ 1980s , US 75 , from Council Bluffs to Sioux City , was completely rerouted out of Iowa , instead extending up the former US 73 corridor in Nebraska .

= = Exit list = =