



Population: Iowa's Counties 1990 - 2010

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Iowa gained 120,031 residents (4.1%) between the decennial censuses of 2000 and 2010 surpassing three million in population at a census for the first time (Table 1, Figures 1-2). The increases for the decade were somewhat lower in both number and percent than the gains between 1990 and 2000 (+149,569; +5.4%). The changes among the 99 counties were variable with 33 counties experiencing an increase in population while 66 counties registered declines between 2000 and 2010 (Table 1, Figure 1).

Many of the counties that increased were located in a band from central Iowa eastward to the Quad Cities area (Figure 1). Polk County's gain of 56,000 residents was the most of any county, giving it a population exceeding 400,000 for the first time (Table 1). Dallas County's percentage increase (62.3%) was triple that of the next highest county (Johnson, 17.9%) and Dallas had substantial numerical gain (+25,300) as well. Polk, Linn, Scott, Black Hawk, and Johnson were the state's five largest counties having a combined population of nearly 1,070,000 and 35 percent of the state's total residents. Adams County was the smallest (4,029).

Counties with population loss could be found across the state, but were more likely in northern, western, and southern areas of Iowa. For a few of these counties, the loss was small in both numerical and percentage terms. Franklin County declined by 24 residents (-0.2%) and Monroe County by 46 (-0.6%) (Table 1). For many counties, however, the declines were substantial. Four (Cerro Gordo, Des Moines, Lee, Webster) lost 2,000 or more residents while 13 others declined by at least 1,000. Nine counties (Adams, Audubon, Calhoun, Greene, Ida, Kossuth, Pocahontas, Sac, Taylor) registered losses of nine percent or more and another 25 experienced at least a five percent loss. The 15 percent decrease for Pocahontas County was the largest percentage decline for any county in the state.

In recent decades, significant numbers of counties have registered a population decline at a census. Between 1990 and 2000, 45 counties experienced a population loss while 54 showed a gain. The decade of 1980 to 1990 was especially hard on Iowa's population. During that time, Iowa lost 4.7 percent of its residents (-137,000) with 92 counties showing population loss (Figure 2).

Figure 1. Population Change 2000 - 2010



Internet population resources:

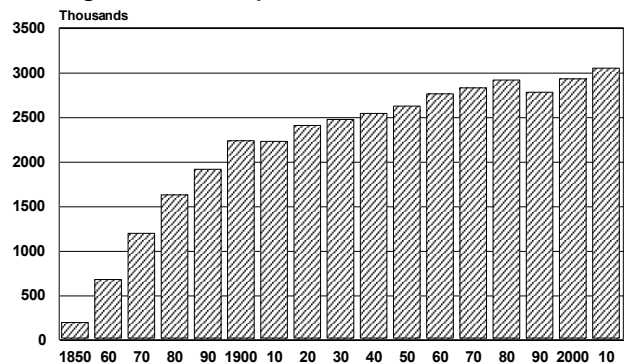
- www.iowadatacenter.org
- www.census.gov
- www.ers.usda.gov/data/ruralatlas
- www.cvcia.org
- www.recap.iastate.edu

Table 1. Population in Iowa's Counties, 1990 – 2010.

County	Population		Change 2000 - 2010		Population	Population	County	Population		Change 2000 - 2010		Population	Population
	2010	2000	Number	Percent				2010	2000	2010	2000		
Adair	7682	8243	-561	-6.8	8409	8243	Lyon	11581	11581	-182	-1.5	11763	11952
Adams	4029	4482	-453	-10.1	4866	4482	Madison	15679	15679	1660	11.8	14019	12483
Allamakee	14330	14675	-345	-2.4	13855	14675	Mahaska	22381	22381	46	0.2	22335	21532
Appanoose	12887	13721	-834	-6.1	13743	13721	Marion	33309	33309	1257	3.9	32052	30001
Audubon	6119	6830	-711	-10.4	7334	6830	Marshall	40648	40648	1337	3.4	39311	38276
Benton	26076	25308	768	3.0	22429	25308	Mills	15059	15059	512	3.5	14547	13202
Black Hawk	131090	128012	3078	2.4	123798	128012	Mitchell	10776	10776	-98	-0.9	10874	10928
Boone	26306	26224	82	0.3	25186	26224	Monona	9243	9243	-777	-7.8	10020	10034
Bremer	24276	23325	951	4.1	22813	23325	Monroe	7970	7970	-46	-0.6	8016	8114
Buchanan	20958	21093	-135	-0.6	20844	21093	Montgomery	10740	10740	-1031	-8.8	11771	12076
Buena Vista	20260	20411	-151	-0.7	19965	20411	Muscatine	42745	42745	1023	2.5	41722	39907
Butler	14867	15305	-438	-2.9	15731	15305	O'Brien	14398	14398	-704	-4.7	15102	15444
Calhoun	9670	11115	-1445	-13.0	11508	11115	Osceola	6462	6462	-541	-7.7	7003	7267
Carroll	20816	21421	-605	-2.8	21423	21421	Page	15932	15932	-1044	-6.1	16976	16870
Cass	13956	14684	-728	-5.0	15128	14684	Palo Alto	9421	9421	-726	-7.2	10147	10669
Cedar	18499	18187	312	1.7	17444	18187	Plymouth	24986	24986	137	0.6	24849	23388
Cerro Gordo	44151	46447	-2296	-4.9	46733	46447	Pocahontas	7310	7310	-1352	-15.6	8662	9525
Cherokee	12072	13035	-963	-7.4	14098	13035	Polk	430640	430640	56039	15.0	374601	327140
Chickasaw	12439	13095	-656	-5.0	13295	13095	Pottawattamie	93158	93158	5454	6.2	87704	82628
Clarke	9286	9133	153	1.7	8287	9133	Poweshiek	18914	18914	99	0.5	18815	19033
Clay	16667	17372	-705	-4.1	17585	17372	Ringgold	5131	5131	-338	-6.2	5469	5420
Clayton	18129	18678	-549	-2.9	19054	18678	Sac	10350	10350	-1179	-10.2	11529	12324
Clinton	49116	50149	-1033	-2.1	51040	50149	Scott	165224	165224	6556	4.1	158668	150973
Crawford	17096	16942	154	0.9	16775	16942	Shelby	12167	12167	-1006	-7.6	13173	13230
Dallas	66135	40750	25385	62.3	29755	40750	Sioux	33704	33704	2115	6.7	31589	29903
Davis	8753	8541	212	2.5	8312	8541	Story	89542	89542	9561	12.0	79981	74252
Decatur	8457	8689	-232	-2.7	8338	8689	Tama	17767	17767	-336	-1.9	18103	17419
Delaware	17764	18404	-640	-3.5	18035	18404	Taylor	6317	6317	-641	-9.2	6958	7114
Des Moines	40325	42351	-2026	-4.8	42614	42351	Union	12534	12534	225	1.8	12309	12750
Dickinson	16667	16424	243	1.5	14909	16424	Van Buren	7570	7570	-239	-3.1	7809	7676
Dubuque	93653	89143	4510	5.1	86403	89143	Wapello	35625	35625	-426	-1.2	36051	35696
Emmet	10302	11027	-725	-6.6	11027	11027	Warren	46225	46225	5554	13.7	40671	36033
Fayette	20880	22008	-1128	-5.1	21843	22008	Washington	21704	21704	1034	5.0	20670	19612
Floyd	16303	16900	-597	-3.5	17058	16900	Wayne	6403	6403	-327	-4.9	6730	7067
Franklin	10680	10704	-24	-0.2	11364	10704	Webster	38013	38013	-2222	-5.5	40235	40342
Fremont	7441	8010	-569	-7.1	8226	8010	Winnebago	10866	10866	-857	-7.3	11723	12122
Greene	9336	10366	-1030	-9.9	10045	10366	Winneshiek	21056	21056	-254	-1.2	21310	20847
Grundy	12453	12369	84	0.7	12029	12369	Woodbury	102172	102172	-1705	-1.6	103877	98276
Guthrie	10954	11353	-399	-3.5	10935	11353	Worth	7598	7598	-311	-3.9	7909	7991
Hamilton	15673	16438	-765	-4.7	16071	16438	Wright	13229	13229	-1105	-7.7	14334	14269
Hancock	11341	12100	-759	-6.3	12638	12100	State of Iowa	3046355	3046355	120031	4.1	2926324	2776831
Hardin	17534	18812	-1278	-6.8	19094	18812							
Harrison	14928	15666	-738	-4.7	14730	15666							
Henry	20145	20336	-191	-0.9	19226	20336							
Howard	9566	9932	-366	-3.7	9809	9932							
Humboldt	9815	10381	-566	-5.5	10756	10381							
Ida	7089	7837	-748	-9.5	8365	7837							
Iowa	16355	15671	684	4.4	14630	15671							
Jackson	19848	20296	-448	-2.2	19950	20296							
Jasper	36842	37213	-371	-1.0	34795	37213							
Jefferson	16843	16181	662	4.1	16310	16181							
Johnson	130882	111006	19876	17.9	96119	130882							
Jones	20638	20221	417	2.1	19444	20221							
Keokuk	10511	11400	-889	-7.8	11624	10511							
Kossuth	15543	17163	-1620	-9.4	18591	15543							
Lee	35862	38052	-2190	-5.8	38687	35862							
Linn	211226	191701	19525	10.2	168767	211226							
Louisa	11387	12183	-796	-6.5	11592	11387							
Lucas	8898	9422	-524	-5.6	9070	8898							

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Decennial Census 1990, 2000, 2010

Figure 2. Iowa Population, 1850 - 2010



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