



Population 18 and Older and 17 and Younger: Extension Regions, 2000 - 2010

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Information about the age of Iowa's residents is included in the census. Two age groups of interest are those 18 and older, which is the voting population, and the youth population age 17 and younger. In 2010, the 18 and older group numbered 2,318,000 and made up 76.1 percent of the state's residents, an increase from 74.9 percent a decade earlier. The 17 and younger group numbered 728,000 and were 23.9 percent of Iowans that year (Table 1).

Across the 20 Extension Regions in 2010, there was a relatively small range in the percentage that were age 18 and older. The region (5) with the lowest percentage (73.8%), was separated from the regions with the highest percentages (78.9 - 79.0%; 15, 8) by just over 5 percentage points. The percentages for those age 17 and younger ranged from 21.0% (8) to 26.2% (5) (Table 1). The two regions with the highest percentages of 18 and older contain Iowa's largest universities that have large numbers in the 19 - 22 age range that swell the proportion of those 18 or over.

Between 2000 and 2010, the number 18 and older in Iowa increased by 125,600 (+5.7%). In contrast, the youth population declined by 5,600 (-0.8%) (Table 1). In that decade, 11 regions recorded a gain in residents age 18 and above. Regions 10 and 15 each gained at least 17,000 in this age group while region 13 increased more than 64,000. The percentage gain for region 13 in those 18 and older exceeded 19 percent. Regions 10 and 15 climbed more than 10 percent (Table 1, Figure 1). Nine regions experienced a decline in the number of residents age 18 or older. Among these, region 6 had the largest numerical loss (-3,159) and also the highest percentage decrease (-5.8%).

The state's overall loss in the age 17 and under group was reflected across most regions. Between 2000 and 2010,

16 regions recorded a decline in this age group. Twelve regions lost at least 2,000 youth with region 20 having the highest decrease (-3,083). Many regions experienced significant percentage losses as well with seven regions losing 10 percent or more of their youth. Region 2 declined 16.5 percent (Table 1, Figure 2). For some of these regions, the youth losses may have occurred as a result of out-migrating parents, however, for many it was a result of relatively low birth rates and an older age structure with relatively few younger adults in the child-bearing age cohorts. As the oldest youth have aged out of the age group, they have not been replaced by as many new births during the decade.

Four regions gained youth between 2000 and 2010. The region 13 increase, both in number (+22,392) and percentage (+18.9%) far exceeded any other region (Table 1, Figure 2). It is useful to keep in mind that the individual counties in Iowa experienced greater contrasts in youth trends than that shown among the Extension regions. Pocahontas County lost 28.7 percent of its residents age 17 and younger while Dallas County recorded a 67.3 percent gain in the youth group (Figure 3)¹.

Dividing the total number of youth age 17 and younger by 18 (the number of one-year age groups²) gives an estimated average size³ of the one-year cohorts. In 2010 in Iowa, there was an estimated average of 40,444 youth in each one-year age group from infants younger than one through those age 17 (Table 2, Figure 4). For the regions, the average size of a youth one-year age group ranged from 723 (2) to 7,842 (13) and declined in 16 regions between 2000 and 2010. For 13 of these regions, the loss averaged at least 100 youth per one-year cohort. A loss of 25 youth in

Figure 1. Population Change Age 18 and Older, 2000 - 2010

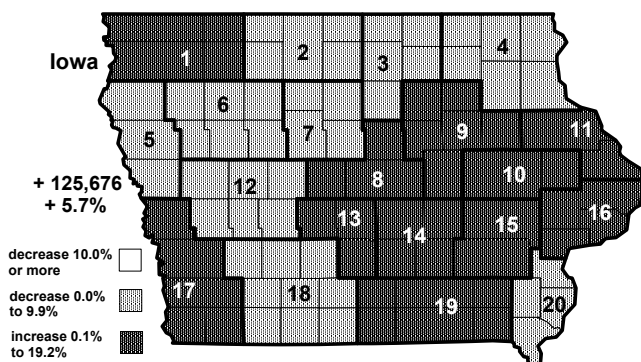


Figure 2. Population Change Age 17 and Younger, 2000 - 2010

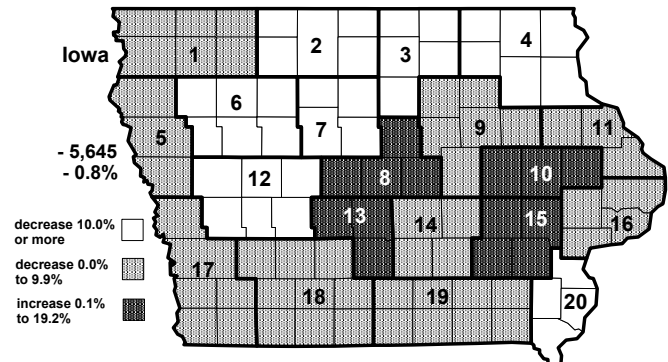


Table 1. Population 18 and Older and 17 and Younger in Iowa's Extension Regions, 2000 - 2010.

Region	Total Population		Population 18 & Older				Population 17 & Younger				Population Change 2000 - 2010					
	2010	2000	Number		% of Total		Number		% of Total		Total		18 & Older		17 & Younger	
			2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Iowa	3046355	2926324	2318362	2192686	76.1	74.9	727993	733638	23.9	25.1	120031	4.1	125676	5.7	-5645	-0.8
1	99479	99253	75287	73937	75.7	74.5	24192	25316	24.3	25.5	226	0.2	1350	1.8	-1124	-4.4
2	57473	62160	44468	46577	77.4	74.9	13005	15583	22.6	25.1	-4687	-7.5	-2109	-4.5	-2578	-16.5
3	89508	92834	69158	70143	77.3	75.6	20350	22691	22.7	24.4	-3326	-3.6	-985	-1.4	-2341	-10.3
4	96400	99698	74451	74802	77.2	75.0	21949	24896	22.8	25.0	-3298	-3.3	-351	-0.5	-2947	-11.8
5	136401	138746	100655	100991	73.8	72.8	35746	37755	26.2	27.2	-2345	-1.7	-336	-0.3	-2009	-5.3
6	66751	72589	51496	54655	77.1	75.3	15255	17934	22.9	24.7	-5838	-8.0	-3159	-5.8	-2679	-14.9
7	76730	81388	59198	61272	77.2	75.3	17532	20116	22.8	24.7	-4658	-5.7	-2074	-3.4	-2584	-12.8
8	174030	164328	137446	127989	79.0	77.9	36584	36339	21.0	22.1	9702	5.9	9457	7.4	245	0.7
9	221411	218207	170718	165344	77.1	75.8	50693	52863	22.9	24.2	3204	1.5	5374	3.3	-2170	-4.1
10	257940	237230	194821	177010	75.5	74.6	63119	60220	24.5	25.4	20710	8.7	17811	10.1	2899	4.8
11	131265	127843	99925	94459	76.1	73.9	31340	33384	23.9	26.1	3422	2.7	5466	5.8	-2044	-6.1
12	76488	80085	57814	59243	75.6	74.0	18674	20842	24.4	26.0	-3597	-4.5	-1429	-2.4	-2168	-10.4
13	543000	456022	401836	337250	74.0	74.0	141164	118772	26.0	26.0	86978	19.1	64586	19.2	22392	18.9
14	111446	110415	85274	83113	76.5	75.3	26172	27302	23.5	24.7	1031	0.9	2161	2.6	-1130	-4.1
15	179452	158747	141616	123977	78.9	78.1	37836	34770	21.1	21.9	20705	13.0	17639	14.2	3066	8.8
16	275584	268726	207727	198043	75.4	73.7	67857	70683	24.6	26.3	6858	2.6	9684	4.9	-2826	-4.0
17	157258	154674	119649	114962	76.1	74.3	37609	39712	23.9	25.7	2584	1.7	4687	4.1	-2103	-5.3
18	83071	83986	63122	63404	76.0	75.5	19949	20582	24.0	24.5	-915	-1.1	-282	-0.4	-633	-3.1
19	104949	106471	80898	80592	77.1	75.7	24051	25879	22.9	24.3	-1522	-1.4	306	0.4	-1828	-7.1
20	107719	112922	82803	84923	76.9	75.2	24916	27999	23.1	24.8	-5203	-4.6	-2120	-2.5	-3083	-11.0

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

Table 2: Estimated Average Size* of Youth (Age 17 and Younger) One-Year Age Groups in Iowa's Extension Regions, 2000 - 2010.

Region	2010	2000	Change 2000 - 2010
Iowa	40444	40758	-314
1	1344	1406	-62
2	723	866	-143
3	1131	1261	-130
4	1219	1383	-164
5	1986	2098	-112
6	848	996	-149
7	974	1118	-144
8	2032	2019	14
9	2816	2937	-121
10	3507	3346	161
11	1741	1855	-114
12	1037	1158	-120
13	7842	6598	1244
14	1454	1517	-63
15	2102	1932	170
16	3770	3927	-157
17	2089	2206	-117
18	1108	1143	-35
19	1336	1438	-102
20	1384	1556	-171

*Average Size = Total Age 17 and Younger/18

each one-year age group might translate into a loss of one classroom per grade in the schools. The regions with youth losses stand in stark contrast to those with gains. Region 13 gained more than 1,200 in the average size of each youth one-year cohort, significantly impacting schools in that area (Table 2).

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... and justice for all

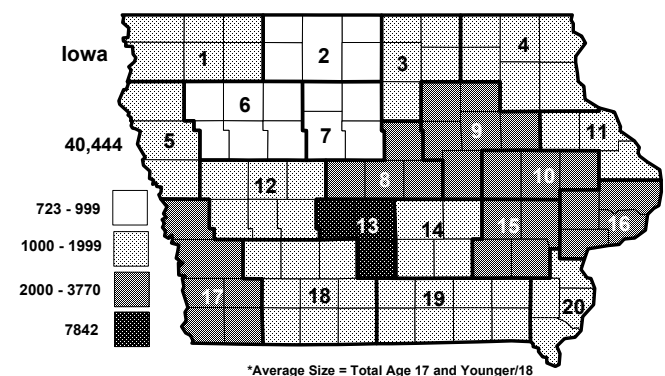
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Figure 3. County-Level Population Change Age 17 and Younger, 2000 - 2010



Figure 4. Estimated Average Size* of Youth One-Year Age Groups, 2010



*Average Size = Total Age 17 and Younger/18

¹A report with county information can be found at the Community Vitality Center web site.

²Within the age group of 17 and younger there are 18 one-year age cohorts, one each for 1 year olds, 2 year olds, etc. through 17 year olds plus one for those younger than one.

³This is an estimated average size and does not indicate the size of any specific one-year age group.