

THE STATE DATA CENTER OF IOWA AND THE IOWA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS' OFFICE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

WOMEN IN IOWA: 2018

MARCH 2018

In 1981, the U.S. Congress passed a resolution establishing National Women's History Week. The week was chosen to coincide with International Women's Day, March 8. In 1987, Congress expanded the week to a month. Every year since, Congress and the Iowa General Assembly have passed a resolution for Women's History Month, and the U.S. president and Iowa's Governor have issued a proclamation.

1,575,574

The number of females in Iowa in 2016. That exceeds the number of men (1,559,119). Males outnumber females in most of the five-year-age groups through the 45-49 age group. Starting with the 50-54 age group, women outnumber men. At ages 85 and over there are nearly twice as many women as men.

1,705,856

The projected female population of Iowa in 2050 according to Woods & Poole Economics, Inc. Women will constitute 49.7 percent of the state's total population.

Families and Children

21.8%

The percent of families with children under 18 in 2016 living with their mother in a single-parent household, compared to 8.7 percent living with their father. This compares to 69.5 percent living with both parents.

676,349

Number of married women in 2016 (including those who are separated or have an absent spouse).

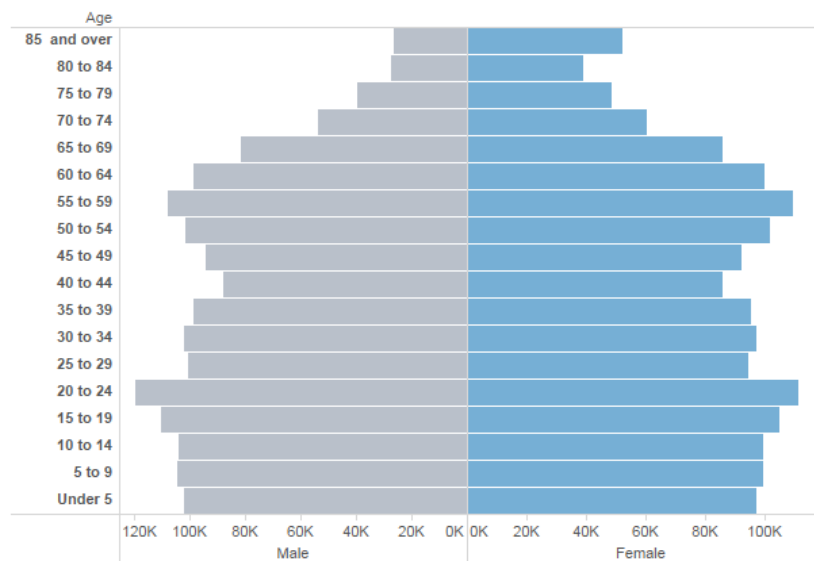
47.3%

Percent of unmarried Iowans 15 years and older who are women in 2016. There are 608,071 unmarried (widowed, divorced or never married) women.

39.3

The estimated median age for the female population in Iowa in 2016. The estimated median age for the state of Iowa was 38.0. The male estimated median age was 36.8

Iowa population by sex and age: 2016



**Coming to
America**

48.5%

The percent of the foreign-born population in 2016 that were female

**Serving Our
Nation**
12,226

The number of Iowa women in 2016 who are veterans of the U.S. armed forces. This is 6.7% of the total veteran population.



Education

267,025

The number of girls enrolled in the state's elementary and high schools during the 2016-2017 school year, including preschool. This represents 48.6% of the total enrollment in Iowa.

93.0

The graduation rate for girls in 2016. The graduation rate for boys was 89.5.

Source: Iowa Department of Education

212,512

Enrollment of women in Iowa's universities and colleges in 2017. Women make up 57.7 percent of the total enrollment in 2016.

Source: Iowa Student College Aid Commission

92.6%

The percentage of women in Iowa age 25 and over who had at least a high school education in 2016. This compares to 61.8 percent of women who had completed 4 years of high school or higher in 1970.

29.4%

The percentage of women in Iowa age 25 and over with a bachelor's degree or higher in 2016. This compares to 7.5 percent of women who had completed 4 years of college or higher in 1970.

98,815

Number of women in Iowa 25 years and older with an advanced degree in 2016. (e.g., master's, professional, doctorate.) The number of men in Iowa with an advanced degree in 2015 was 96,105.

Income and Poverty

\$39,427

The median income for women in Iowa who worked full-time, year-round in the past 12 months in 2016. The median income for men in the state was \$50,679.

\$26,532

The median family income for female householders, no husband with own children under 18 in 2016. The median income for married-couple families was \$91,935. The median income for male householder, no wife present was \$41,829.

13.1%

The poverty rate in 2016 for women in Iowa. The corresponding rate for men is 10.4 percent.

36.6%

The percentage of female households, no husband present with related children under age 18, below the poverty level in 2016. The corresponding rate for married-couple families with related children under 18 years was 4.7 percent.

Note: Income is the sum of the amounts reported separately for wage or salary income; net self-employment income; interest, dividends, or net rental or royalty income or income from estates and trusts; social security or railroad retirement income; Supplemental Security Income (SSI); public assistance or welfare payments; retirement, survivor, or disability pensions; and all other income.

Businesses and Jobs

82,345

The number of female-owned businesses in 2012.

29.0%

The percent increase in women-owned firms between 2002 and 2012.

Source: 2012 Survey of Business Owners

3.3%

The unemployment rate for women age 20 to 64 in Iowa in 2016. The unemployment rate for men was 3.9%.

Earnings

\$37,791

The median earnings in 2016 inflation-adjusted dollars for full-time, year-round women workers in Iowa. Men in Iowa had median earnings of \$49,385.

Industry

300,920

The number of Iowa women in the Education services, and health care and social assistance industry in 2016. 39.3% of Iowa's total female labor force work is in this one industry, making it the largest industry sector for female employment.

59.5%

The percent of the total population who were women that work in the Finance and Insurance industry in 2016. Women make up **48.8** percent of the Retail trade industry; **58.5** percent in management of companies and enterprises; **53.4** percent in information; and **56.8** percent in accommodation and food services.

Voting and Representation

72.5%

The percentage of registered women in Iowa who reported voting in the 2016 general election. The number of registered males who voted in the same election was 69.7%.

Iowa Secretary of State's office

28.6%

In 2015 women comprise 28.6% of statewide elected executive office holders, 22.0% of the state legislature, and 16.7% of Iowa's congressional delegation after electing its first woman to the U.S. Congress in 2014. In 2017 Governor Kim Reynolds became the first female governor in Iowa.

(2015 SHE Matters: Issues and Actions report; http://www.women.iowa.gov/resources_tools/docs/e-SHE_Matters_2015_Issues_and_Actions.pdf)

Occupations

165,992

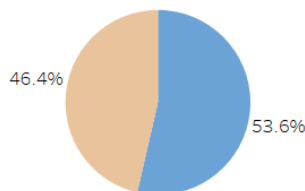
The number of Iowa women in office and administrative support occupations in 2016, the largest of any occupation. Women represent a wide variety of occupations in Iowa. For instance, there are about **78,165** women in healthcare practitioner and technical occupations, **50,380** in personal care and service occupations and **108,633** education, legal, community service, arts, and media occupations.

1.0%

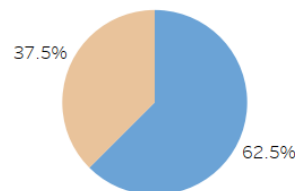
The percent of civilian employed women 16 years and over in Iowa in the Natural resources, construction, and material moving occupations in 2016.

Occupation by gender in Iowa: 2016

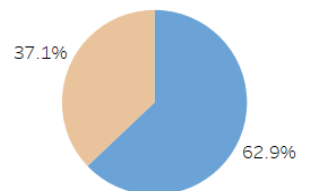
Management, business, science, and arts occupations



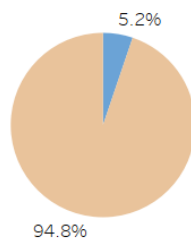
Sales and office occupations



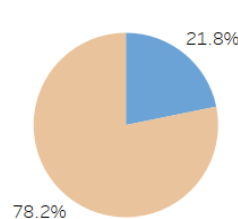
Service occupations



Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations



Production, transportation, and material moving occupations



Female
Male

The State Data Center of Iowa



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The Iowa Department of Human Rights' Office on the Status of Women



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Vital Events

12.5

Live births per 1,000 population in 2016. In 1980 the birth rate was 15.3.

348.9

The rate of Iowa births to unmarried women in 2016. (per 1,000 births). The rate to unmarried women in 1980 was 102.4.

45.7

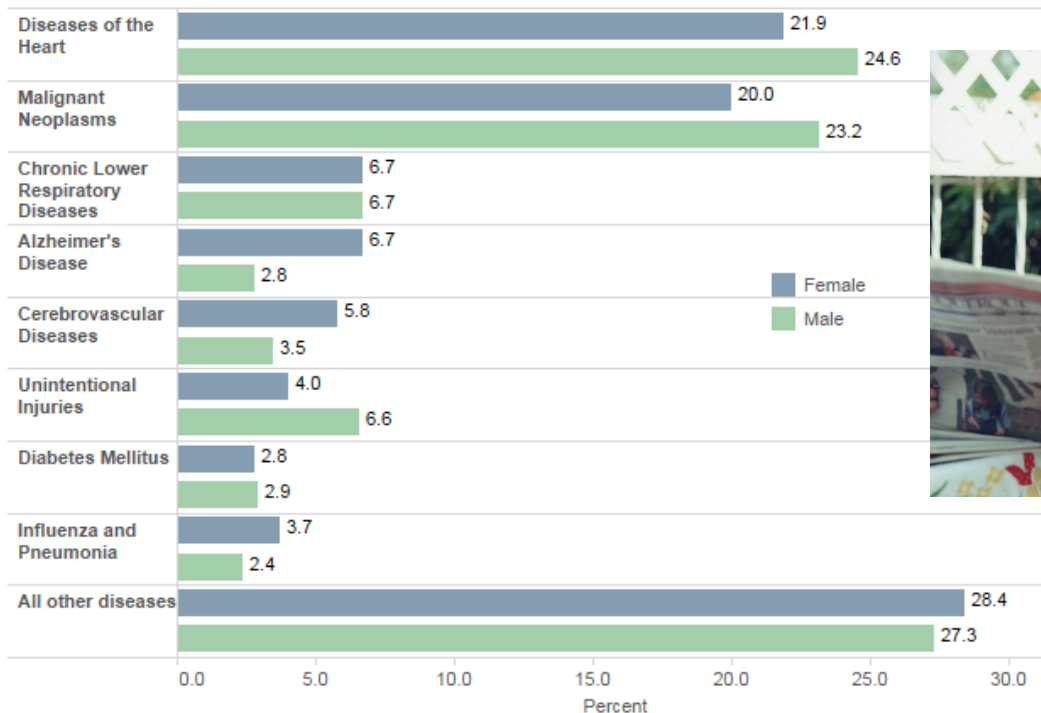
The birth rate for women under 20 years of age in Iowa per 1,000 women in 2016. In 1980 the birth rate was 32.5.

**In 2016 the under 20 birth rate was for ages 15-19. In 1980 it was ages 13-19.*

9.4

The 2016 death rate for women in Iowa per 1,000 population. For men in Iowa the death rate was 9.4 over the same time period. The female death rate in 1980 was 8.4 while the male death rate was 10.2.

Leading causes of deaths in Iowa by gender: 2016



Data Sources (unless otherwise noted) :
U.S. Census Bureau,
2015 American Community Survey
U.S. Decennial Census
1970,1980,1990 and 2000
Photos by U.S. Census Bureau