

OLDER IOWANS: 2020

MAY 2020

A meeting with the National Council of Senior Citizens resulted in President John F. Kennedy designating May 1963 as Senior Citizens Month, encouraging the nation to pay tribute in some way to older people across the country. In 1980, President Jimmy Carter's proclamation changed the name to Older Americans Month, a time to celebrate those 65 and older through ceremonies, events and public recognition.

539,830

The estimated number of people age 65 and over in Iowa in 2018. This age group accounted for 17.1 percent of the total population. In 2018 Iowa ranked 17th nationwide in the percentage of population age 65 and older.

297,878

The estimated number of women age 65 and over in Iowa in 2018. This accounted for 55.2 percent of the age group 65 and over. The estimated number of women age 85 and was 52,325. This was 66.2 percent of Iowans 85 and over.

687,787

The projected population age 65 and older in Iowa in the year 2050. According to Woods & Poole Economics Inc., this age group will constitute 20.3 percent of the state's total population at that time.

Households and Families

28.7%

Percent of Iowans age 65 and over who lived alone in 2018.

13,828

The number of children under 18 who are being cared for by a grandparent in Iowa in 2018.

23,825

Number of Iowans age 65 and older in 2018 who lived in group quarters. Group quarters include nursing facilities; military quarters, correctional facilities as well as college student housing. This age group is 25.6% of the total group quarter population.

Marital Status

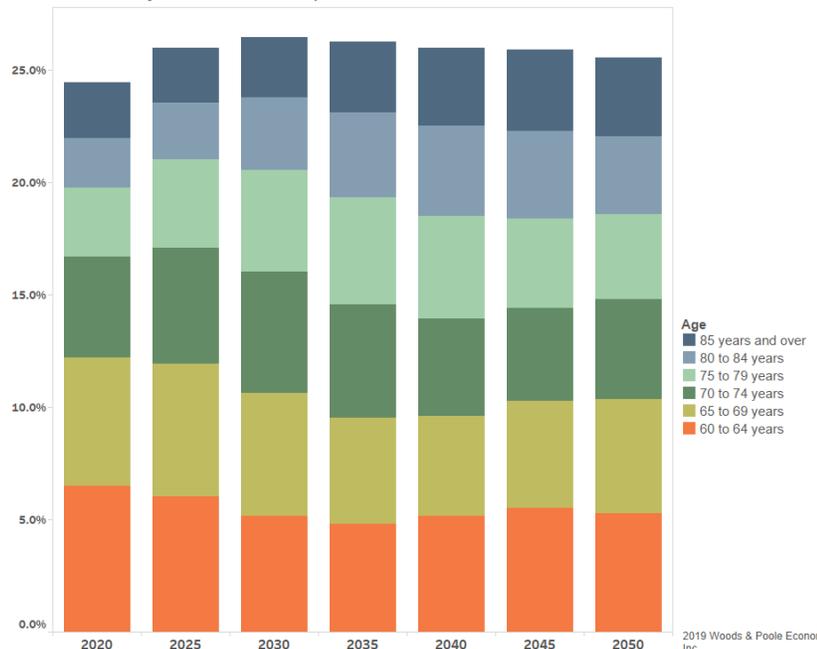
59.5%

Percentage of people in Iowa age 65 and older in 2018 who were married.

24.1%

Percentage of Iowans age 65 and older in 2018 who were widowed.

Projected Iowa Population: 2020-2050



Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance

\$42,995

Median household income in 2018 with householders 65 and over. The median income for all households in Iowa in 2018 was \$59,955.

1,205

The number of Iowans 65 years and over without health insurance coverage in 2018. That is 0.2% of that population without health insurance coverage. The percentage of the total population in Iowa without health insurance coverage was 4.7%.

504,073

The number of 2018 social security beneficiaries aged 65 or older in Iowa. This group collected \$731,746,000 total benefits.

Data provided by the Social Security Administration publication "OASDI Beneficiaries by State and County" <http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/>

7.1%

Poverty rate for people 65 and older in 2018, compared to 11.2% for all Iowans.

Voting

78.5%

Percentage of Iowans age 65 and older who were citizens and registered to vote in the 2018 general election, the highest rate of any age group.

30.1%

Percent of the votes cast by citizens age 65 and older in the 2018 election.

Data provided by the Iowa Secretary of State

Education

90.5%

Percent of people age 65 and older in 2018 with at least a high school diploma. The percent of all Iowans age 25 and over with at least a high school diploma was 92.3%.

22.7%

Percentage of the population age 65 and older in 2018 who had earned a bachelor's degree or higher education. The percent of all Iowans age 25 and over who had earned a bachelor's degree or higher was 29.0%.



Migration

93.9%

Percent of Iowans age 65 and over who did not move between 2017 and 2018. This can be compared to 85.4% for the state as a whole.

4,583

The number of people age 65 and over who moved into the state of Iowa between 2017 and 2018. This represented only 5.4% of all the people who moved into the state during that time.

73.1%

Percent of Iowans age 65 and over in 2018 who were born in Iowa. The percent of all Iowans born in the state was 69.9%.

Serving Our Nation
19.1%

Percentage of people in 2018 age 65 and older in Iowa who are military veterans.

Disability

160,426

The number of Iowans in 2018 age 65 and over with at least one type of disability.

37.9%

The percent of Iowa veterans in 2018 age 65 and over with a disability.

160,418

The number of people 65 & over in 2018 with a disability that have private as well as public insurance.

Type of Disability: 2018 Population 65 and over	
Hearing difficulty	76,951
Vision difficulty	25,479
Cognitive difficulty	31,589
Ambulatory difficulty	90,951
Self-care difficulty	29,653
Independent living difficulty	57,375

Employment

19.4%

Labor force participation rate for Iowans age 65 and older in 2018. There were 104,100 Iowans age 65 and over in the labor force.

1.6%

The unemployment rate in 2018 for Iowans age 65 and over.

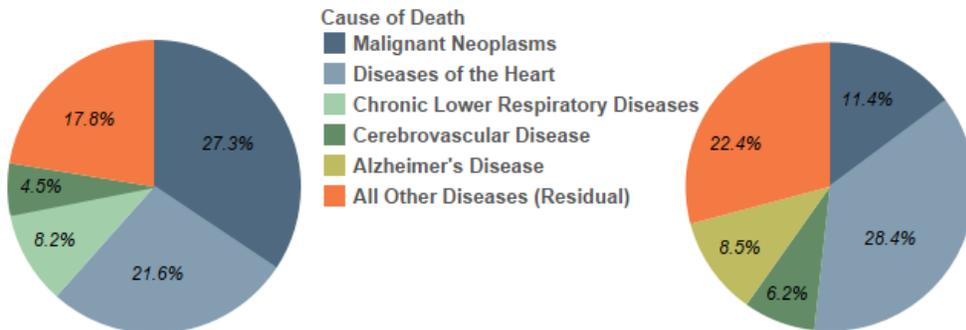


Vital Statistics

Leading causes of death by age group:

Age 65 to 84 years of age

85 years of age and over



Leading causes of death for all Iowans: 2018	
Disease of the heart:	23.4%
Malignant Neoplasms:	20.9%
Chronic lower Respiratory:	6.1%
Alzheimer's Disease:	4.7%
Unintentional injuries:	4.7%
Cerebrovascular Diseases :	4.7%
Other:	35.5%

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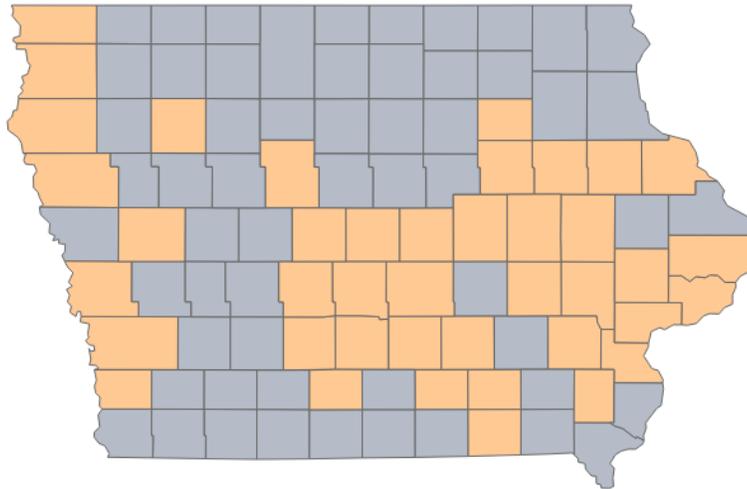
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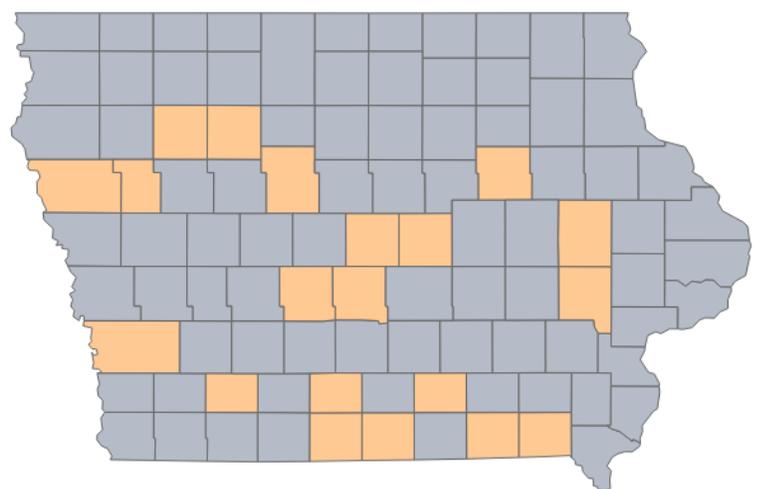
2018



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Population age 65 and over
■ Less than 20%
■ 20% or more

2050



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Counties and Cities

Data Source (unless otherwise noted) :
U.S. Census Bureau,
American Community Survey, 2018
Woods & Poole Economics, Inc. 2019
Photos by the U.S. Census Bureau

63,631

The number of people age 65 and over in Polk County, making it the largest population of this age group in any county in 2018.

11

The number of Iowa counties with a decrease in the population age 65 and over between 2010 and 2018.

26.1%

The percent of total population in Dickinson county who are age 65 and over in 2018. Other Iowa counties with a high percentage in this age group are Audubon (24.7%), Monona (24.6%), Ringgold (24.5%), and Cherokee (24.0%).

79

The number of Iowa counties in 2050 in which at least 20% of the residents will be age 65 and over according to Woods & Pool Economics, Inc. In 2000 that number was 30.

43.8%

Over a third of Iowans age 65 and over in 2017 lived in these 10 counties: Polk, Linn, Scott, Black Hawk, Dubuque, Johnson, Pottawattamie, Woodbury, Story, and Dallas.

25,251

The number of people age 65 and over in Des Moines, making it largest population of this age group in any Iowa city.

75.6%

The percent of total population in Wahpeton who were age 65 and over. Other Iowa cities with a high percentage in this age group were Clayton (71.7%), Carbon (62.2%), West Okoboji (52.9%) and Harper's Ferry (50.2%).

17.8%

The percent of the total population age 65 and over who lived in Des Moines, Cedar Rapids, Davenport, Sioux City, Waterloo, and Dubuque.

Source: 2014- 2018 American Community Survey