

Profile of Child Well-Being in Jones County



Population Profile

The population 17 years of age or younger in Jones County in 2000 was 4,874, a decrease of 2.3 percent since 1990. According to projections, the youth population will decline to 3,904 by 2020.

In Jones County, youth accounted for 24.1 percent of the total population in 2000 compared to 25.1 percent statewide. Minority youth in the county numbered 182 in 2000 and are projected to decrease to 144 by 2020.

1. Population 17 Years or Younger

	Jones County			
	1990	2000	2010*	2020*
Total population	19,444	20,221	20,412	20,561
Percent 17 or younger	25.7	24.1	19.6	19.0
Population 17 or younger	4,990	4,874	4,008	3,904
0 to 4 years	1,266	1,128	1,098	1,078
5 to 9 years	1,401	1,394	1,094	1,096
10 to 14 years	1,505	1,440	1,062	1,093
15 to 17 years	818	912	754	637
Minority [^] Population 17 or younger	n/a	182	116	144
0 to 4 years	n/a	46	40	40
5 to 9 years	n/a	55	32	40
10 to 14 years	n/a	55	26	40
15 to 17 years	n/a	26	18	24
Female Population 17 or younger	2,442	2,410	1,889	1,873
0 to 4 years	623	551	530	520
5 to 9 years	703	680	522	534
10 to 14 years	736	703	494	526
15 to 17 years	380	476	343	293
Male Population 17 or younger	2,548	2,464	2,119	2,031
0 to 4 years	643	577	568	558
5 to 9 years	698	714	572	562
10 to 14 years	769	737	568	567
15 to 17 years	438	436	411	344

[^] Minority includes all persons except white non-Hispanics.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Summary File 1, *Projections by Woods & Poole Economics, Inc., 2004

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Health Profile

As the number of total births in Jones County rose from 1999 to 2003, the number of births to teens decreased by 8. In 1999, births to teens accounted for 12.2 percent of total births in the county compared to 7.2 percent in 2003.

Teen parenting is used as a predictor of future economic hardship for both parents and children. Teen parents are often less able to provide positive, safe and caring environments, or family stability.

In Jones County, 7.2 percent of total births in 2003 were low birthweight compared to 6.6 percent statewide.

Low birthweight (less than 5.5 pounds or 2,500 grams) can be an indicator of mothers not receiving adequate prenatal care and is often a good predictor of future health and developmental complications.

Early and ongoing prenatal care increases the chances of delivering healthy, full-term, and normal weight babies. Rates are per 1,000 live births.

For the period from 1998 to 2001, the rate of mothers in Jones County receiving prenatal care during the first trimester of their pregnancy was 884.3 compared to 869.8 statewide.



2. Births to Teens, Low Birthweight Births, Pre-natal Care, and Immunizations

Year	Jones County		State		Jones County		State		Jones County		State	
	n	% of total births	n	% of total births	(per 1,000 live births)	rate (per 1,000 live births)	% fully immunized	% fully immunized	% fully immunized	rate (per 1,000 live births)	% fully immunized	% fully immunized
1999	24	12.2	12	6.1	---	---	94.0	84.0	94.0	---	84.0	84.0
2000	18	7.9	15	6.6	---	---	94.0	86.0	94.0	---	86.0	86.0
2001	24	12.1	10	5.1	884.3	869.8	95.0	88.0	95.0	869.8	95.0	88.0
2002	26	12.6	16	7.7	n/a	n/a	93.0	85.0	93.0	n/a	93.0	85.0
2003	16	7.2	16	7.2	6.6	6.6	100.0	89.0	100.0	n/a	100.0	89.0

Source: Iowa Department of Public Health

*NOTE: Immunization data reflect only one site per county so should be interpreted with caution.

In Jones County in 2003, 100 percent of children 24 months of age were reported to be fully immunized compared to 94 percent in 1999. Percentages for the state were 89 in 2003 and 84 in 1999.

Fully immunized = 4 DTP/DTaP, 3 Polio, 1 MMR, 3 Hib, 3 Hep. B by 24 months of age.

Infant mortality is considered one of the best overall measures of health care accessibility and quality in that it measures the health of the most vulnerable in a given population. The infant mortality rate is the number of infants who die before their first birthday per 1,000 live births.

In Jones County, the infant mortality rate from 2001 to 2003 was 9.6, lower than the county rate of 1995-1998 and higher than the statewide rate of 5.5 in 2001-2003 period.

NOTE: Due to the relatively low number of births, infant deaths, and child deaths per year in many of Iowa's counties, users are encouraged to use 3-5 year averages for comparative purposes. These are presented in Tables 3 and 4.



3. Infant Mortality

Year	Jones County		State	
	n	rate	rate	rate
1995-1997	8	12.6	7.1	7.1
1998-2000	0	0.0	6.2	6.2
2001-2003	6	9.6	5.5	5.5

Source: Iowa Department of Public Health

From 2000 to 2002, the child death rate in Jones County was 0.2 compared to the state's rate of 0.2

Child deaths include deaths to all children ages 1 to 14. Child death rates are the number of deaths in this population per 1,000 total population age 1 to 14.

4. Child Death Rates

Year	Jones County		State	
	n	rate	rate	rate
2000-2002	2	0.2	0.2	0.2

Source: Iowa Department of Public Health



Education Profile

In Jones County, 20 children were enrolled in Pre-Kindergarten during the 2003-04 school year. This was a 35 child decrease from 2000-01.

Pre-Kindergarten students often demonstrate stronger early reading and math skills than non PK students.

5. Pre-Kindergarten Enrollment

	Jones County	State
2000-2001	55	5,797
2001-2002	18	5,714
2002-2003	22	5,949
2003-2004	20	6,907

Source: Iowa Department of Education

The Jones County Empowerment Area reported at least 31.2 percent of its kindergartners consistently displaying school-ready behaviors in the five areas. Statewide at least 35.9 percent of kindergarten students were reported as school ready.

"School readiness" is the result of kindergarten teachers being asked to assess their students in 5 areas: communication skills, cognitive skills, self-management skills, motor skills, and social-emotional development. Teachers report the degree to which behaviors within these five areas are observable ranging from "rarely" to "consistently".

6. School Readiness*, 2002-2003

	Empowerment Area	State
Motor Skills ¹	50.1	48.8
Communication Skills ²	31.2	35.9
Cognitive Skills ³	45.6	44.5
Social/Emotional Dev. ⁴	50.7	50.1
Self-Management Skills ⁵	42.8	43.0

* Percent reported "consistently observed"

Source: Iowa Department of Education

- ¹ Include coordination and balance, using scissors, etc.
- ² Include the ability to ask and answer questions, communicate needs, etc.
- ³ Include using a variety of words to describe a shape or color, ability to sort objects into categories, etc.
- ⁴ Includes ability to build relationships with adults and peers, express emotions and feelings, etc.
- ⁵ Includes ability to follow classroom rules and routines, take responsibility for personal belongings, etc.

Economic Profile

During the 2003-04 school year, 28.2 percent of K-12 students in Jones County were eligible for free or reduced-price school compared to 24.6 percent in 2000-01. Statewide a total of 144,000 students (30.0%) were eligible for free or reduced price meals.

Because eligibility for free and reduced-price school meals is an annual measure, it is a good indicator of the economic well-being of children in a community. Families with incomes 135% or less of the federal poverty threshold are eligible for free meals, those with incomes 136% to 180% of poverty are eligible for reduced-price meals.

7. Eligibility for Free or Reduced-Price School Meals

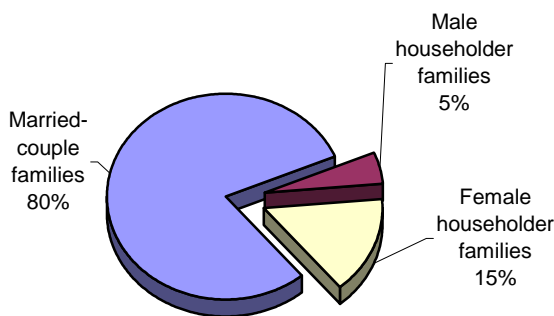
	Number Eligible for Free Meals		Number Eligible for Reduced-Price Meals		Percentage Eligible for Free or Reduced Price Meals	
	Jones County	State	Jones County	State	Jones County	State
2000-01	574	93,823	275	37,754	24.6	26.7
2001-02	569	93,062	245	36,492	24.8	26.7
2002-03	579	100,544	286	36,870	26.6	28.5
2003-04	643	107,324	264	36,907	28.2	30.0

Source: Iowa Department of Education

Family Living Profile

While the majority of the 4,565 children under 18 years of age in Jones County in 2000 resided in a two-parent family, 20.4 percent lived in a family headed by a single parent.

Children by Family Type, 2000



Source: Census 2000, SF1, US Bureau of the Census

In Jones County, 78.6 percent of children under 6 living in a family or subfamily had all parents in the labor force compared to 71.4 percent statewide. All parents includes both parents in a married-couple family and the parent in a male- or female-headed family.

Safety Profile

The number of confirmed cases of child abuse or neglect in Jones County in 2003 was 69, an increase of 36 since 1999.

9. Confirmed Cases of Child Abuse and Neglect

	Jones County	State
1999	33	9,588
2000	44	10,821
2001	62	12,793
2002	50	12,292
2003	69	14,936

Source: Iowa Department of Human Services

In 2003, Jones County reported 1,035 Group A and 325 Group B arrests per 100,000 juveniles compared to rates of 2,003 and 1,180, respectively, for the state.

Source and further details available @ http://www.dps.state.ia.us/documents_repository/DPS/2003/iacrim_e/iacrime.htm

Juvenile arrests are reported in 2 groups, Group A offenses include such crimes as murder, rape, burglary and drug violations while Group B offenses include curfew, drunkenness and runaways.

8. Employment Status of Parents with Young Children, 2000

	Jones County		State
	n	%	%
Total Own Children in Families			
Under 6 years:	1,325		
Living with 2 parents	1,097		
Both parents in labor force	855	77.9	69.2
Living with father only	77		
Father in labor force	60	77.9	88.8
Living with mother only	151		
Mother in labor force	126	83.4	71.4

Source: Census 2000, SF3, US Bureau of the Census