

Profile of Child Well-Being in Page County



Population Profile

The population 17 years of age or younger in Page County in 2000 was 3,948, a decrease of 6.3 percent since 1990. According to projections, the youth population will decline to 3,089 by 2020.

In Page County, youth accounted for 23.3 percent of the total population in 2000 compared to 25.1 percent statewide. Minority youth in the county numbered 302 in 2000 and are projected to decrease to 274 by 2020.

1. Population 17 Years or Younger

	Page County			
	1990	2000	2010*	2020*
Total population	16,870	16,976	16,253	16,295
Percent 17 or younger	25.0	23.3	19.1	19.0
Population 17 or younger	4,214	3,948	3,111	3,089
0 to 4 years	999	946	824	850
5 to 9 years	1,183	1,004	814	841
10 to 14 years	1,317	1,144	881	868
15 to 17 years	715	854	592	530
Minority^ Population 17 or younger	n/a	302	206	274
0 to 4 years	n/a	80	55	80
5 to 9 years	n/a	68	47	62
10 to 14 years	n/a	55	59	73
15 to 17 years	n/a	99	45	59
Female Population 17 or younger	2,050	1,917	1,626	1,690
0 to 4 years	487	475	405	417
5 to 9 years	599	510	406	421
10 to 14 years	648	559	408	425
15 to 17 years	316	373	407	427
Male Population 17 or younger	2,164	2,031	1,656	1,721
0 to 4 years	512	471	419	433
5 to 9 years	584	494	418	434
10 to 14 years	669	585	411	430
15 to 17 years	399	481	408	424

^ Minority includes all persons except white non-Hispanics.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Summary File 1, *Projections by Woods & Poole Economics, Inc., 2005

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Health Profile

As the number of total births in Page County dropped from 2000 to 2004, the number of births to teens decreased by 11. In 2000, births to teens accounted for 12.4 percent of total births in the county compared to 6.0 percent in 2004.

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 Page County, 6.5 percent of total births in 2004 were low birthweight compared to 7.0 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 2002 to 2003, the rate of mothers in Page County receiving prenatal care during the first trimester of their pregnancy was 919.9 compared to 886.2 statewide.



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

Year	Page County		State		Page County		State		Page County		State	
	n	% of total births	n	% of total births	n	% of total births	n	% of total births	% fully immunized	rate (per 1,000 live births)	% fully immunized	rate (per 1,000 live births)
2000	21	12.4	9	5.3	6.1	---	---	84.0	86	84.0	86	
2001	14	8.8	14	8.8	6.4	903.4	869.8	90.0	88	90.0	88	
2002	22	12.9	21	12.3	6.6	n/a	n/a	89.0	85	89.0	85	
2003	20	12.0	16	9.6	6.6	919.9	886.2	90.0	89	90.0	89	
2004	10	6.0	11	6.5	7.0	n/a	n/a	96.0	90	96.0	90	

Source: Iowa Department of Public Health

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

In Page County in 2004, 96 percent of children 24 months of age were reported to be fully immunized compared to 84 percent in 2000. Percentages for the state were 89 in 2004 and 84 in 2000.

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 Page County, the infant mortality rate from 2002 to 2004 was 8.1, higher than the county rate of 1999-2001 and higher than the statewide rate of 5.3 in the 2002-2004 period.

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

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	Page County		State	
	n	rate	n	rate
1996-1998	9	16.3	6.6	6.6
1999-2001	4	7.2	5.9	5.9
2002-2004	4	8.1	5.3	5.3

Source: Iowa Department of Public Health

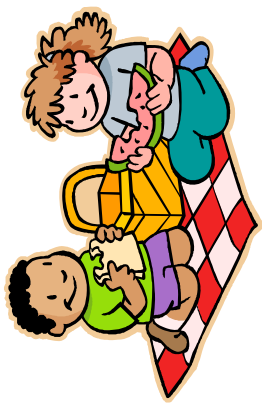
From 2002 to 2004, the child death rate in Page County was 0.1 compared to the state's rate of 0.2

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	Page County		State	
	n	rate	n	rate
2002-2004	1	0.1	0.2	0.2

Source: Iowa Department of Public Health



Education Profile

In Page County, 35 children were enrolled in Pre-Kindergarten during the 2004-05 school year. This was a 4 child increase from 2001-02.

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

5. Pre-Kindergarten Enrollment

	Page County	State
2001-2002	31	5,714
2002-2003	33	5,949
2003-2004	32	6,907
2004-2005	35	6,108

Source: Iowa Department of Education

The Corner Counties Empowerment Area reported at least 32.3 percent of its kindergartners consistently displaying school-ready behaviors in the five areas. Statewide at least 33.7 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*, 2003-2004

	Empowerment Area		State
	n	rate	
Motor Skills ¹	36.2	46.1	
Communication Skills ²	34.9	33.7	
Cognitive Skills ³	43.3	41.8	
Social/Emotional Dev. ⁴	38.1	47.0	
Self-Management Skills ⁵	32.3	41.2	

* 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 2004-05 school year, 36.1 percent of K-12 students in Page County were eligible for free or reduced-price school compared to 27.8 percent in 2001-02. Statewide a total of 148,759 students (31.1%) 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

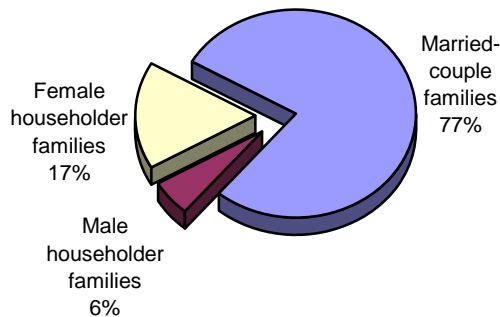
	Number Eligible for Free Meals		Number Eligible for Reduced-Price Meals		Percentage Eligible for Free or Reduced Price Meals	
	Page County	State	Page County	State	Page County	State
2001-02	622	93,062	172	36,492	27.8	26.7
2002-03	657	100,544	183	36,870	30.6	28.5
2003-04	713	107,324	262	36,907	35.2	30.0
2004-05	704	111,390	285	37,369	36.1	31.1

Source: Iowa Department of Education

Family Living Profile

While the majority of the 3,547 children under 18 years of age in Page County in 2000 resided in a two-parent family, 22.2 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 Page County, 73.2 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 Page County in 2004 was 75, an increase of 29 since 2000.

9. Confirmed Cases of Child Abuse and Neglect

	Page County	State
2000	46	10,821
2001	47	12,793
2002	80	12,292
2003	92	14,936
2004	75	14,499

Source: Iowa Department of Human Services

In 2004, Page County reported 578 Group A and 1,279 Group B arrests per 100,000 juveniles compared to rates of 1,687 and 1,199, respectively, for the state.

Source and further details available @ http://www.dps.state.ia.us/documents_repository/DPS/2004/iacrime/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

	Page County		State
	n	%	%
Total Own Children in Families			
Under 6 years:	1,057		
Living with 2 parents	748		
Both parents in labor force	541	72.3	69.2
Living with father only	73		
Father in labor force	56	76.7	88.8
Living with mother only	236		
Mother in labor force	177	75.0	75.9

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