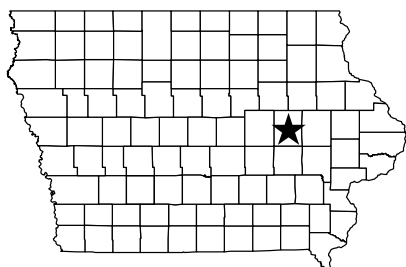


# Child and Family Data for Decision Makers



## Benton County

### Population Profile

Benton County is a non-metropolitan county in southeast Iowa. The total population in the county increased 12.8 percent from 1990 to 2000. At the same time, the population under the age of 18 in Benton County increased 11.3 percent. Statewide, total population increased 5.4 percent and the population under 18 increased 2.1 percent during that period.

#### 1. Population 17 or younger

	Benton County			State		
	1980	1990	2000	1980	1990	2000
Total Population	23,649	22,429	25,308	2,913,808	2,776,831	2,926,324
Percent 17 or younger	30.0	27.7	27.4	28.3	25.9	25.1
Population 17 or younger	7,097	6,219	6,924	825,873	718,880	733,638
Under 1 year	413	287	297	48,309	34,301	37,338
1 and 2 years	718	658	670	88,825	79,758	75,150
3 and 4 years	731	707	671	84,494	79,144	75,925
5 years	313	362	366	41,200	41,088	38,649
6 years	309	335	391	39,274	40,967	39,441
7 to 9 years	1,054	1,114	1,246	130,567	127,283	124,513
10 and 11 years	834	776	852	92,514	85,454	84,392
12 and 13 years	805	715	801	90,875	80,260	82,996
14 years	454	323	426	48,311	38,503	43,159
15 years	463	330	415	51,934	38,170	43,759
16 years	506	301	405	54,449	36,626	43,617
17 years	497	311	384	55,121	37,326	44,699

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Summary File 1.

#### For more information contact your...

##### County Extension Education Director

Linda Fischer and Stan Geiken  
501 First Avenue  
Vinton, IA 52349-1749

Phone: (319) 472-4739

E-mail: lefisch@iastate.edu, shgeiken@iastate.edu

##### Extension Community Development Specialist

Tom Quinn  
Phone: (641) 682-5491  
E-mail: tqinn@iastate.edu

Jeff Zacharakis-Jut

Phone: (319) 377-9839

E-mail: jzachara@iastate.edu

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## Family Profile

In 2000, there were 3,403 families with children under 18 in Benton County. A large majority of these families were headed by a married-couple family; 18.6 percent were headed by a single parent. Statewide, 24.0 percent of families with children under 18 were headed by a single parent in 2000.

### 2. Families with children under 18 years by race/Hispanic Origin, 2000

	Total	Families with children under 18					
		Married-couple families		Female householder families*		Male householder families*	
		n	%	n	%	n	%
Benton County	3,403	2,770	81.4	429	12.6	204	6.0
White alone	3,380	2,751	81.4	426	12.6	203	6.0
Black alone	8	6	75.0	1	12.5	1	12.5
American Indian alone	5	5	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Asian/Pacific Islander alone	4	4	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Some other race alone	3	1	33.3	2	66.7	0	0.0
Two or more races	3	3	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	15	9	60.0	6	40.0	0	0.0
State	361,153	274,565	76.0	64,367	17.8	22,221	6.2
White alone	338,833	261,530	77.2	57,027	16.8	20,276	6.0
Black alone	8,567	3,285	38.3	4,475	52.2	807	9.4
American Indian alone	1,206	617	51.2	471	39.1	118	9.8
Asian/Pacific Islander alone	4,490	3,712	82.7	563	12.5	215	4.8
Some other race alone	5,176	3,624	70.0	998	19.3	554	10.7
Two or more races	2,881	1,797	62.4	833	28.9	251	8.7
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	10,653	7,458	70.0	2,149	20.2	1,046	9.8

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Summary File 1 (P34-35).

\*No spouse present.

Note: Includes families with own children only. See definition section on page 4.

The vast majority of children under 18 in Benton County lived in married-couple families in 1990 and 2000. The percentage living in single-parent families however, increased from 14.3 percent in 1990 to 16.5 percent in 2000. The figures for the state were 16.6 percent and 21.2 percent, respectively.

### 3. Children 17 or younger by family type

	Children in all families	Percent of children in...					
		Married-couple families		Female householder families*		Male householder families*	
		Benton County	State	Benton County	State	Benton County	State
Total Children 17 or Younger							
1990	5,899	85.7	83.4	11.8	13.7	2.5	2.9
2000	6,564	83.5	78.9	11.6	16.1	4.9	5.1
White alone	6,457	83.7	80.8	11.3	14.3	4.9	5.0
Black alone	12	25.0	36.1	50.0	57.5	25.0	6.4
American Indian alone	8	87.5	56.9	0.0	34.8	12.5	8.3
Asian/Pacific Islander alone	19	100.0	84.8	0.0	11.1	0.0	4.2
Some other race alone	11	45.5	70.5	54.5	21.9	0.0	7.6
Two or more races	57	68.4	57.6	29.8	35.6	1.8	6.8
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	58	65.5	70.0	29.3	22.6	5.2	7.4

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Summary File 1 (P36).

\*No spouse present.

Note: Includes families with own children only. See definition section on page 4.

## Employment of Parents Profile

The majority of children under 6 years of age in Benton County (76.8 percent) had all parents in the labor force\* in 2000. This compared to 71.4 percent statewide.

### 4. Employment status of parents with young children

	Benton County				State	
	1990		2000		1990	2000
	n	%	n	%	%	%
Total Children Under 6 Years in Families or Subfamilies	1,914	—	1,966	—	—	—
Living with two parents	1,630	100.0	1,640	100.0	100.0	100.0
Both parents in labor force	1,071	65.7	1,262	77.0	68.0	69.2
Father only in labor force	546	33.5	328	20.0	29.3	25.3
Mother only in labor force	6	0.4	20	1.2	1.4	3.0
Neither parent in labor force	7	0.4	30	1.8	1.3	3.0
Living with one parent	284	—	326	—	—	—
Living with father	87	100.0	113	100.0	100.0	100.0
In labor force	82	94.3	107	94.7	93.2	88.8
Not in labor force	5	5.7	6	5.3		11.2
Living with mother	197	100.0	213	100.0	100.0	100.0
In labor force	106	53.8	141	66.2	56.3	75.9
Not in labor force	91	46.2	72	33.8		24.1

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Summary File 3 (P46).

\*This includes all children in this age group living in single-parent families with that parent in the labor force, as well as children in married-couple families where both parents are in the labor force.

## Income Profile

In 1999, median family income was \$49,701 in Benton County. Median income is the point at which half of the families report more income and half report less. Ten years earlier, median family income in the county was \$30,872. Statewide, median family income increased from \$31,659 in 1989 to \$48,005 in 1999.

### 5. Median family income

	Benton County		State	
	1989	1999	1989	1999
Median family income (\$)	30,872	49,701	31,659	48,005
Married-couple family (\$)	32,496	52,796	34,092	52,409
With children under 18 years (\$)	35,955	55,808	36,387	55,946
Female household family*	13,713	25,548	15,202	24,468
With children under 18 years	8,301	19,079	11,079	20,453
Male household family*	n/a	35,129	n/a	32,466
With children under 18 years	n/a	31,842	n/a	28,788

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Summary File 3.

\*No spouse present.

# Poverty Profile

The percentage of families with children under 18 living in poverty in Benton County in 1999 was 1.4 percentage points lower than the state average. Families with female householders, no husband present, continued to constitute a disproportionate percentage of total families with children in poverty. Note: See definition section below for poverty thresholds.

## 6. Poverty status of families with children 17 or younger

	Benton County				State	
	1989		1999		1989	1999
	n	%	n	%	%	%
Total families in poverty	577	9.2	334	4.6	8.4	6.0
With related children under 18 years	409	13.6	232	3.2	12.6	4.6
Married-couple families in poverty	306	5.6	174	2.8	5.0	3.2
With related children under 18 years	168	6.7	87	3.1	6.3	4.0
Female householder* families in poverty	227	38.2	144	23.1	33.5	23.4
With related children under 18 years	199	52.2	140	33.3	45.1	30.5
Male householder* families in poverty	44	20.6	16	4.2	13.4	11.2
With related children under 18 years	42	35.0	5	2.0	19.0	14.1

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Summary File 3.

### Definitions and Notes:

**Own children** include all never-married children under 18 years who are sons/daughters by birth, stepchildren, or adopted children of householder.

**Related children** include own children and all other persons under 18 years of age in the household, regardless of marital status, who are related to the householder. Foster children are not included since they are not related to the householder.

**Poverty status** is determined for all persons except those institutionalized, in military quarters, in college dormitories, and unrelated individuals under 15 years of age. The income cutoffs used to determine poverty status include several thresholds; for families, size is cross-classified by the number of related children under 18 years of age, with everyone in a particular family given the same poverty status. For a two-person family, the poverty threshold averaged \$10,869 in 1999, it was \$13,290 for a three-person family, and \$17,029 for a four-person family.

**Economic data** (e.g., income and poverty) collected in the decennial censuses are based on the previous calendar year. That is the reason for the 1989 and 1999 headings in Tables 5 and 6.

### Prepared by

Margie Hanson  
Office of Social and Economic Trend Analysis (SETA)  
303 East Hall  
Ames, Iowa 50011-1070

Phone: (515) 294-4800  
E-mail: mmhanson@iastate.edu

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U.S. Bureau of the Census

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