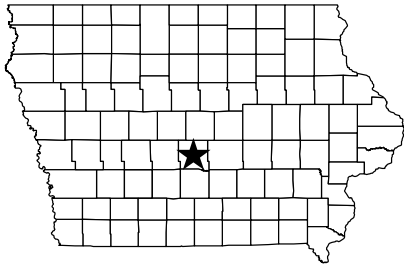


Child and Family Data for Decision Makers



Polk County

Population Profile

Polk County is a metropolitan county in central Iowa. The total population in the county increased 14.5 percent from 1990 to 2000. At the same time, the population under the age of 18 in Polk County increased 17.5 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

	Polk County			State		
	1980	1990	2000	1980	1990	2000
Total Population	303,170	327,140	374,601	2,913,808	2,776,831	2,926,324
Percent 17 or younger	27.5	25.1	25.7	28.3	25.9	25.1
Population 17 or younger	83,422	81,971	96,300	825,873	718,880	733,638
Under 1 year	4,914	4,649	5,648	48,309	34,301	37,338
1 and 2 years	9,013	10,283	11,220	88,825	79,758	75,150
3 and 4 years	8,256	9,928	11,087	84,494	79,144	75,925
5 years	4,057	4,933	5,379	41,200	41,088	38,649
6 years	4,059	4,741	5,476	39,274	40,967	39,441
7 to 9 years	13,708	14,074	16,355	130,567	127,283	124,513
10 and 11 years	9,841	9,103	10,575	92,514	85,454	84,392
12 and 13 years	9,153	8,380	10,138	90,875	80,260	82,996
14 years	4,735	3,971	5,232	48,311	38,503	43,159
15 years	5,046	4,014	5,113	51,934	38,170	43,759
16 years	5,244	3,898	4,978	54,449	36,626	43,617
17 years	5,396	3,997	5,099	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

Barbara Hug
5201 NE 14th Street, Suite A
Des Moines, IA 50313-2005

Phone: (515) 261-4204
E-mail: bhug@iastate.edu

Extension Community Development Specialist

Norm Riggs
Phone: (515) 261-4214
E-mail: nriggs@iastate.edu

Frank Owens
Phone: (515) 471-8650
E-mail: frowens@iastate.edu

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CFDD 77 Revised June2003

ISU Extension to Communities and ISU Extension to Families

Family Profile

In 2000, there were 48,087 families with children under 18 in Polk County. A large majority of these families were headed by a married-couple family; 26.2 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

	Families with children under 18						
	Total	Married-couple families		Female householder families*		Male householder families*	
		n	%	n	%	n	%
Polk County	48,087	35,481	73.8	9,733	20.2	2,873	6.0
White alone	42,195	32,021	75.9	7,781	18.4	2,393	5.7
Black alone	2,585	1,032	39.9	1,327	51.3	226	8.7
American Indian alone	125	67	53.6	45	36.0	13	10.4
Asian/Pacific Islander alone	1,378	1,140	82.7	165	12.0	73	5.3
Some other race alone	1,170	789	67.4	249	21.3	132	11.3
Two or more races	634	432	68.1	166	26.2	36	5.7
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	2,241	1,534	68.5	477	21.3	230	10.3
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 Polk County lived in married-couple families in 1990 and 2000. The percentage living in single-parent families however, increased from 21.1 percent in 1990 to 23.6 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*	
		Polk County	Polk County State	Polk County	Polk County State	Polk County	Polk County State
Total Children 17 or Younger							
1990	76,287	78.9	83.4	17.9	13.7	3.2	2.9
2000	88,711	76.4	78.9	18.6	16.1	5.1	5.1
White alone	74,872	79.7	80.8	15.5	14.3	4.8	5.0
Black alone	5,386	38.6	36.1	55.2	57.5	6.2	6.4
American Indian alone	224	66.5	56.9	24.1	34.8	9.4	8.3
Asian/Pacific Islander alone	2,693	84.7	84.8	11.2	11.1	4.1	4.2
Some other race alone	2,705	68.9	70.5	22.6	21.9	8.5	7.6
Two or more races	2,831	61.4	57.6	32.5	35.6	6.1	6.8
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	5,563	68.7	70.0	22.9	22.6	8.4	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 Polk County (69.3 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

	Polk County				State	
	1990		2000		1990	2000
	n	%	n	%	%	%
Total Children Under 6 Years in Families or Subfamilies	28,581	—	32,775	—	—	—
Living with two parents	22,343	100.0	25,359	100.0	100.0	100.0
Both parents in labor force	15,762	70.5	16,847	66.4	68.0	69.2
Father only in labor force	5,947	26.6	6,952	27.4	29.3	25.3
Mother only in labor force	355	1.6	820	3.2	1.4	3.0
Neither parent in labor force	279	1.2	740	2.9	1.3	3.0
Living with one parent	6,238	—	7,416	—	—	—
Living with father	1,026	100.0	1,668	100.0	100.0	100.0
In labor force	941	91.7	1,512	90.6	93.2	88.8
Not in labor force	85	8.3	156	9.4		11.2
Living with mother	5,212	100.0	5,748	100.0	100.0	100.0
In labor force	2,769	53.1	4,365	75.9	56.3	75.9
Not in labor force	2,443	46.9	1,383	24.1		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 \$56,560 in Polk 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 \$37,669. Statewide, median family income increased from \$31,659 in 1989 to \$48,005 in 1999.

5. Median family income

	Polk County		State	
	1989	1999	1989	1999
Median family income (\$)	37,669	56,560	31,659	48,005
Married-couple family (\$)	41,618	62,604	34,092	52,409
With children under 18 years (\$)	43,294	65,424	36,387	55,946
Female household family*	19,354	29,657	15,202	24,468
With children under 18 years	13,847	23,682	11,079	20,453
Male household family*	n/a	35,957	n/a	32,466
With children under 18 years	n/a	31,798	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 Polk County in 1999 was 0.2 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

	Polk County				State	
	1989		1999		1989	1999
	n	%	n	%	%	%
Total families in poverty	5,714	6.6	5,146	5.3	8.4	6.0
With related children under 18 years	4,673	10.5	4,256	4.4	12.6	4.6
Married-couple families in poverty	1,975	2.8	1,985	2.6	5.0	3.2
With related children under 18 years	1,300	3.8	1,346	3.5	6.3	4.0
Female householder* families in poverty	3,318	26.0	2,697	18.6	33.5	23.4
With related children under 18 years	3,034	35.7	2,501	24.9	45.1	30.5
Male householder* families in poverty	421	13.3	464	9.3	13.4	11.2
With related children under 18 years	339	19.6	409	12.9	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

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
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Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Stanley R. Johnson, director, Cooperative Extension Service, Iowa State University of Science and Technology, Ames, Iowa.

Information in the county profile was derived from data acquired from:

U.S. Bureau of the Census

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