



Data for Decision Makers

Allamakee County

Population

Allamakee County is a nonmetropolitan county in northeast Iowa. Allamakee County is composed of six incorporated communities and their surrounding rural areas. From 1990 to 2000, Allamakee County's population increased 5.9 percent. The state's population increased by 5.4 percent over that period.

1. Population of Allamakee County

City	1980	1990	2000
Harpers Ferry	258	284	330
Lansing	1,181	1,007	1,012
New Albin	609	534	527
Postville (part) *	1,475	1,465	2,060
Waterville	157	140	145
Waukon	3,983	4,019	4,131
Balance of County	7,445	6,406	6,470
County Total	15,108	13,855	14,675
State Total	2,913,808	2,776,755	2,926,324

* Indicates municipality crosses county border; figure is the portion of population in this county only.

Population Profile

Age distribution

Compared to the state, Allamakee County had a lower percentage of young people (19 or younger) and a higher percentage of older people (age 65+) in 2000. The median age in Allamakee County in 2000 was 3.1 years older than the median age of the state.

2. Percent of population by age

	Allamakee County			State		
	1980	1990	2000	1980	1990	2000
19 or younger	33.7	29.6	27.7	32.3	29.0	28.3
20 to 44	29.3	31.2	30.3	35.1	26.7	34.6
45 to 64	20.0	19.8	23.6	19.2	18.9	22.2
65 or older	17.0	19.5	18.4	13.3	15.3	14.9
Median age	31.8	36.5	39.7	30.0	34.0	36.6

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IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
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Community Profile

Race/Ethnicity

As with the other 98 counties in the state, Allamakee County is predominantly white, with little noticeable change since 1980.

3. Percentage of population by race/Hispanic origin

	Allamakee County			State		
	1980	1990	2000	1980	1990	2000
One Race Only *	100.0	100.0	99.3	100.0	100.0	98.9
White	99.6	99.5	95.9	97.4	96.6	93.9
Black	0.1	0.0	0.1	1.4	1.7	2.1
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.9	1.3
American Indian	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3
Other	0.1	0.1	2.8	0.6	0.5	1.3
Two or more races *	n.a.	n.a.	0.7	n.a.	n.a.	1.1
Hispanic origin **	0.2	0.3	3.5	0.9	1.2	2.8

* 2000 was the first census that allowed respondents to identify themselves in two or more racial categories.

** Hispanics can be of any race.

Education

Educational levels of an adult population are measured by the educational attainment of residents after their education is largely complete (25 years of age or older). In 2000, Allamakee County had a lower percentage of college graduates than the state overall.

4. Educational levels of adults 25 or older

	Allamakee County		State	
	1990	2000	1990	2000
Percent with:				
Less than 12 years	24.1	18.6	19.9	13.9
High school graduate	47.7	44.3	38.5	36.1
Less than 4 years college	19.3	22.7	24.7	28.8
4 or more years college	8.9	14.4	16.9	21.2

Income and Poverty

Since 1979, median household income in Allamakee County increased \$4,717 (adjusted dollars). In 1999, Allamakee had a median income \$5,502 lower than the state.

5. Median Household income (in 1999 \$)

	1979	1989	1999
Allamakee County	\$29,250	\$28,089	\$33,967
State	\$37,515	\$34,921	\$39,469

Poverty rates in Allamakee County declined between 1979 and 1999; state levels also declined.

6. Percent of population in poverty

	1979	1989	1999
Allamakee County	14.5	13.2	9.6
State	10.1	11.5	9.1

Housing

Allamakee County had a lower percentage of owner-occupied housing, lower median housing value, and lower median rent than the state in 2000. Allamakee County also had the same percentage of newer housing units as the state.

7. Housing characteristics, 1990-2000

	Allamakee County		State	
	1990	2000	1990	2000
Total units	6,603	7,142	1,143,669	1,232,511
Percent of units:				
Owner-occupied	60.5	61.2	64.0	67.5
Renter-occupied	19.3	18.9	26.2	25.8
Vacant/seasonal	20.2	19.9	9.8	6.8
10 or fewer years old	12.9	12.3	10.0	12.3
40 or more years old	47.4	51.9	42.9	51.1
Single detached homes	69.8	69.7	74.6	74.0
Mobile homes	17.8	18.5	5.0	5.3
Median value	\$39,700	\$68,100	\$45,900	\$82,500
Median gross rent	\$243	\$348	\$336	\$470

Employment and Earnings Profile

Employment

The labor force in any area consists of all persons aged 16 or older who either are currently employed or actively seeking work. The number employed is simply the number of labor force participants who currently have jobs. Labor force participants who are not employed and, to a lesser extent, non-participants in the labor force form a pool of available labor. The size of this pool and its skill level are often important factors in economic development efforts.

8. Labor force and employment rates

	<u>1990</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>
Total labor force:			
Allamakee County	7,160	7,440	7,330
State	1,448,000	1,572,800	1,563,100
Employment rate (%):			
Allamakee County	94.4	96.1	95.9
State	95.7	97.5	97.4

Employment earnings

The earnings in Table 10 represent earnings by place of work. This is an enumeration of jobs located within the county, whether or not those jobs are filled by county residents. As a result, county residents who commute out of Allamakee County to work are not counted, but non-county residents who commute into Allamakee County to work are included.

10. Earnings of employed persons 16 years of age or older, by place of work

Industry	Total Earnings (\$000)			Share of Total (%)			
	Allamakee County			Allamakee County		State	
	<u>1990</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>
All Industries	124,039	173,829	192,857	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Farm	26,016	13,202	20,295	21.0	10.5	6.0	4.2
Manufacturing	23,444	39,883	44,640	18.9	23.1	22.6	19.8
Retail	12,554	18,557	19,549	10.1	10.1	9.6	9.2
Finance *	3,780	6,870	6,980	3.0	3.6	6.1	7.9
Services	13,007	28,943	30,975	10.5	16.1	19.6	22.9
Government	19,055	26,920	29,354	15.4	15.2	16.8	15.9
Other **	26,183	39,454	41,064	21.1	21.3	19.2	20.1

* Finance, insurance, and real estate

** Agricultural services, mining, construction, transportation, public utilities, and wholesale trade

Occupation

Among the 7,260 employed persons age 16 or older in Allamakee County in 2000, the largest segment was employed in management, professional, or related occupations.

9. Occupations of employed persons 16 years of age or older

	<u>Allamakee County</u>	<u>State</u>
Total employed	7,260	1,489,816
Percentage in:		
Management, professional or related occupations	28.6	31.3
Service occupations	13.4	14.8
Sales and office occupations	20.0	25.9
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	4.6	1.1
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	10.6	8.9
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	22.9	18.1

Retail Trade Profile

Retail Sales

The relative strength of the retail sector in a county is measured by the pull factor. The pull factor is derived by dividing the county per capita retail sales by state per capita retail sales. Pull factors greater than 1 represent retail sector strength, while pull factors less than 1 show sector weakness.

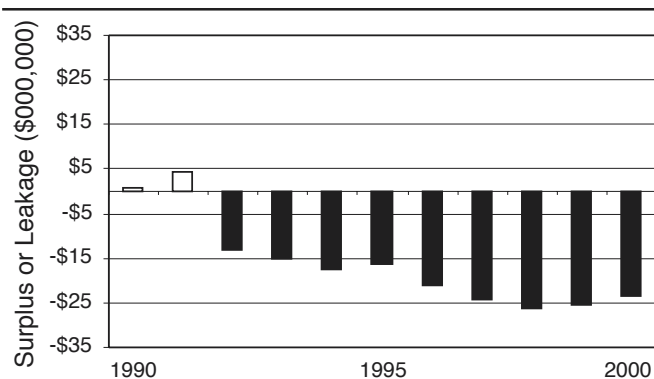
11. Allamakee County retail sales

	Number of Retail Firms	Total sales (millions)	Per capita sales	Pull factor
1996	534	\$76.92	\$5,470	0.66
1997	546	\$77.77	\$5,554	0.65
1998	552	\$77.75	\$5,550	0.63
1999	541	\$82.38	\$5,889	0.64
2000	543	\$89.34	\$6,088	0.65

Retail Trade Analysis

Potential sales is an estimate of the amount of money that could be spent on retail goods and services by residents of the county based on the county's income and population. Potential sales is calculated by multiplying the county population by the per capita sales for the state and adjusting for the county's income level. A "surplus" indicates that trade is being pulled from beyond the county, while a "leakage" indicates that the county is losing shopping dollars to other counties.

Figure 1. Retail trade analysis, Allamakee County



12. Retail sales by merchandise category, Allamakee County

	Sales (millions)			Number of Firms			Percent of Total			Surplus or leakage (millions)
	1996	1999	2000	1996	1999	2000	1996	1999	2000	2000
Building Materials	\$5.87	\$7.01	\$7.13	15	16	16	7.6	8.5	8.0	-\$0.86
General Merchandise	\$2.62	\$8.55	\$11.38	10	19	21	3.4	10.4	12.7	-\$5.64
Food	\$3.36	\$16.08	*	6	11	*	4.4	19.5	*	*
Apparel	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Home Furnishings	\$0.79	\$0.75	\$0.35	12	11	7	1.0	0.9	0.4	-\$4.51
Eating and drinking	\$6.24	\$6.08	\$6.41	45	41	42	8.1	7.4	7.2	-\$3.33
Specialty Stores	\$3.91	\$4.69	\$4.88	86	90	91	5.1	5.7	5.5	-\$3.70
Services	\$8.92	\$10.97	\$11.61	189	178	184	11.6	13.3	13.0	-\$3.26
Wholesale	\$13.70	\$10.00	\$12.31	46	47	43	17.8	12.1	13.8	\$1.86
Other	\$31.51	\$18.25	\$35.27	127	130	139	41.0	22.2	39.5	
Total	\$76.92	\$82.38	\$89.34	534	541	543	100.0	100.0	100.0	-\$23.27

* Data suppressed to protect the confidentiality of reports from individual businesses.

... and justice for all

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