

# Data for Decision Makers

## Ringgold County

### Population

Ringgold County is a nonmetropolitan county in southwest Iowa. Ringgold County is composed of 12 incorporated communities and their surrounding rural areas. From 1990 to 2000, Ringgold County's population increased 0.9 percent. The state's population increased by 5.4 percent over that period.

#### 1. Population of Ringgold County

City	1980	1990	2000
Beaconsfield	39	27	11
Benton	33	39	40
Clearfield (part) *	15	10	7
Delphos	45	23	25
Diagonal	362	298	312
Ellston	60	44	57
Kellerton	278	314	372
Maloy	38	36	28
Mount Ayr	1,938	1,796	1,822
Redding	91	119	78
Shannon City (part) *	14	5	8
Tingley	210	179	171
Balance of County	2,989	2,530	2,538
<b>County Total</b>	<b>6,112</b>	<b>5,420</b>	<b>5,469</b>
<b>State Total</b>	<b>2,913,808</b>	<b>2,776,755</b>	<b>2,926,324</b>

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

### Population Profile

#### Age distribution

Compared to the state, Ringgold 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 Ringgold County in 2000 was 6.6 years older than the median age of the state.

#### 2. Percent of population by age

	Ringgold County			State		
	1980	1990	2000	1980	1990	2000
19 or younger	27.1	25.8	26.5	32.3	29.0	28.3
20 to 44	28.5	27.7	25.9	35.1	26.7	34.6
45 to 64	23.2	22.3	23.6	19.2	18.9	22.2
65 or older	21.2	24.2	24.0	13.3	15.3	14.9
Median age	38.9	42.1	43.2	30.0	34.0	36.6

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# Community Profile

## Race/Ethnicity

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

### 3. Percentage of population by race/Hispanic origin

	Ringgold County			State		
	1980	1990	2000	1980	1990	2000
One Race Only *	100.0	100.0	99.6	100.0	100.0	98.9
White	99.4	99.4	99.1	97.4	96.6	93.9
Black	0.0	0.0	0.1	1.4	1.7	2.1
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.4	0.3	0.2	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	0.0	0.6	0.5	1.3
Two or more races *	n.a.	n.a.	0.4	n.a.	n.a.	1.1
Hispanic origin **	0.4	0.3	0.2	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, Ringgold County had a lower percentage of college graduates than the state overall.

### 4. Educational levels of adults 25 or older

	Ringgold County		State	
	1990	2000	1990	2000
<b>Percent with:</b>				
Less than 12 years	22.0	17.2	19.9	13.9
High school graduate	44.7	44.4	38.5	36.1
Less than 4 years college	23.0	25.0	24.7	28.8
4 or more years college	10.3	13.4	16.9	21.2

## Income and Poverty

Since 1979, median household income in Ringgold County increased \$6,754 (adjusted dollars). In 1999, Ringgold had a median income \$10,359 lower than the state.

### 5. Median Household income (in 1999 \$)

	1979	1989	1999
Ringgold County	\$22,356	\$27,641	\$29,110
State	\$37,515	\$34,921	\$39,469

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

### 6. Percent of population in poverty

	1979	1989	1999
Ringgold County	24.7	17.2	14.3
State	10.1	11.5	9.1

## Housing

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

### 7. Housing characteristics, 1990-2000

	Ringgold County		State	
	1990	2000	1990	2000
<b>Total units</b>	2,713	2,789	1,143,669	1,232,511
<b>Percent of units:</b>				
Owner-occupied	61.6	60.9	64.0	67.5
Renter-occupied	20.1	19.6	26.2	25.8
Vacant/seasonal	18.2	19.5	9.8	6.8
10 or fewer years old	12.7	11.4	10.0	12.3
40 or more years old	52.3	57.0	42.9	51.1
Single detached homes	82.8	81.1	74.6	74.0
Mobile homes	10.5	11.0	5.0	5.3
Median value	\$22,000	\$45,000	\$45,900	\$82,500
Median gross rent	\$262	\$367	\$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>
<b>Total labor force:</b>			
Ringgold County	2,560	2,600	2,530
State	1,448,000	1,572,800	1,563,100
<b>Employment rate (%):</b>			
Ringgold County	95.7	97.3	96.8
State	95.7	97.5	97.4

## Occupation

Among the 2,388 employed persons age 16 or older in Ringgold 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>Ringgold County</u>	<u>State</u>
Total employed	2,388	1,489,816
<b>Percentage in:</b>		
Management, professional or related occupations	33.3	31.3
Service occupations	16.4	14.8
Sales and office occupations	17.7	25.9
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	3.4	1.1
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	13.0	8.9
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	16.2	18.1

## 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 Ringgold County to work are not counted, but non-county residents who commute into Ringgold 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 (%)			
	Ringgold County			Ringgold 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	33,930	50,976	62,495	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Farm	5,201	5,874	14,283	15.3	22.9	6.0	4.2
Manufacturing	1,674	3,589	4,215	4.9	6.7	22.6	19.8
Retail	3,209	4,512	4,929	9.5	7.9	9.6	9.2
Finance *	1,137	***	***	3.4	***	6.1	7.9
Services	6,528	***	***	19.2	***	19.6	22.9
Government	8,971	14,137	14,809	26.4	23.7	16.8	15.9
Other **	7,210	***	***	21.2	***	19.2	20.1

\* Finance, insurance, and real estate

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

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

# 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.

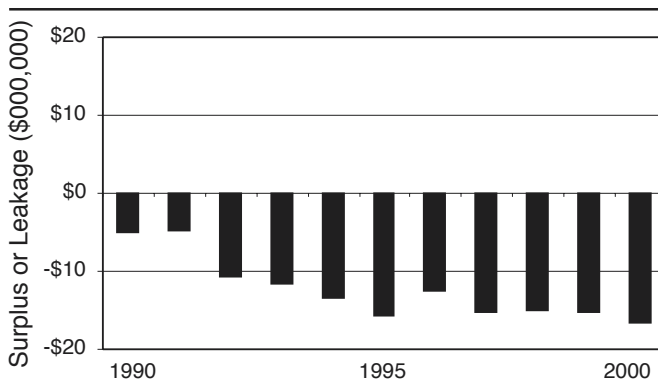
### 11. Ringgold County retail sales

	Number of Retail Firms	Total sales (millions)	Per capita sales	Pull factor
1996	200	\$18.59	\$3,495	0.42
1997	200	\$19.35	\$3,620	0.42
1998	205	\$20.06	\$3,745	0.42
1999	200	\$20.50	\$3,830	0.42
2000	202	\$20.88	\$3,818	0.41

## 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, Ringgold County



### 12. Retail sales by merchandise category, Ringgold 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	\$2.86	\$2.86	\$3.08	9	7	7	15.4	13.9	14.8	\$0.41
General Merchandise	\$2.01	\$2.44	\$2.53	5	*	5	10.8	11.9	12.1	-\$3.15
Food	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Apparel	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Home Furnishings	\$0.62	\$0.66	*	6	5	*	3.3	3.2	*	*
Eating and drinking	\$1.20	\$1.49	\$1.48	18	16	15	6.5	7.3	7.1	-\$1.76
Specialty Stores	\$1.16	\$1.05	\$0.99	38	40	43	6.2	5.1	4.8	-\$1.87
Services	\$2.30	\$2.45	\$2.75	63	63	66	12.4	11.9	13.2	-\$2.20
Wholesale	\$1.17	\$1.05	\$1.06	13	10	11	6.3	5.1	5.1	-\$2.42
Other	\$7.26	\$8.51	\$8.98	50	59	55	39.1	41.5	43.0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$18.59</b>	<b>\$20.50</b>	<b>\$20.88</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-\$16.66</b>

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

... and justice for all

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