

Data for Decision Makers

Tama County

Population

Tama County is a nonmetropolitan county in central Iowa. Tama County is composed of 12 incorporated communities and their surrounding rural areas. From 1990 to 2000, Tama County's population increased 3.9 percent. The state's population increased by 5.4 percent over that period.

1. Population of Tama County

City	1980	1990	2000
Chelsea	376	336	287
Clutier	249	219	229
Dysart	1,355	1,230	1,303
Elberon	194	203	245
Garwin	626	533	565
Gladbrook	970	881	1,015
Lincoln	202	173	182
Montour	387	312	285
Tama	2,968	2,697	2,731
Toledo	2,455	2,380	2,539
Traer	1,703	1,552	1,594
Vining	96	78	70
Balance of County	7,952	6,825	7,058
County Total	19,533	17,419	18,103
State Total	2,913,808	2,776,755	2,926,324

Population Profile

Age distribution

Compared to the state, Tama County had a higher percentage of young people (19 or younger) and a higher percentage of older people (age 65+) in 2000. The median age in Tama County in 2000 was 2.5 years older than the median age of the state.

2. Percent of population by age

	Tama County			State		
	1980	1990	2000	1980	1990	2000
19 or younger	31.8	28.4	29.0	32.3	29.0	28.3
20 to 44	30.3	31.2	29.8	35.1	26.7	34.6
45 to 64	20.9	21.0	22.5	19.2	18.9	22.2
65 or older	17.0	19.4	18.7	13.3	15.3	14.9
Median age	33.5	37.2	39.1	30.0	34.0	36.6

For more information contact

The Tama County Extension Office

Ann Smith, County Extension Education Director
203 W. High Street, P.O. Box 308
Toledo, Iowa 52342-0308

Phone: (641) 484-2703
Fax: (641) 484-6178
E-mail: xtama@iastate.edu

Your Central Iowa Extension Community Development Specialist

Norman (Norm) Riggs
5201 NE 14th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50313

Phone: (515) 261-4214
Fax: (515) 263-2704
E-mail: nriggs@iastate.edu

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
University Extension

Community Profile

Race/Ethnicity

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

3. Percentage of population by race/Hispanic origin

	Tama County			State		
	1980	1990	2000	1980	1990	2000
One Race Only *	100.0	100.0	98.8	100.0	100.0	98.9
White	96.2	94.5	90.4	97.4	96.6	93.9
Black	0.1	0.2	0.3	1.4	1.7	2.1
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.9	1.3
American Indian	3.4	4.7	6.1	0.2	0.3	0.3
Other	0.1	0.2	1.9	0.6	0.5	1.3
Two or more races *	n.a.	n.a.	1.2	n.a.	n.a.	1.1
Hispanic origin **	0.4	0.7	3.8	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, Tama County had a lower percentage of college graduates than the state overall.

4. Educational levels of adults 25 or older

	Tama County		State	
	1990	2000	1990	2000
Percent with:				
Less than 12 years	24.2	15.8	19.9	13.9
High school graduate	43.1	40.8	38.5	36.1
Less than 4 years college	21.4	30.5	24.7	28.8
4 or more years college	11.2	12.9	16.9	21.2

Income and Poverty

Since 1979, median household income in Tama County increased \$2,921 (adjusted dollars). In 1999, Tama had a median income \$2,050 lower than the state.

5. Median Household income (in 1999 \$)

	1979	1989	1999
Tama County	\$34,498	\$32,349	\$37,419
State	\$37,515	\$34,921	\$39,469

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

6. Percent of population in poverty

	1979	1989	1999
Tama County	11.2	10.6	10.5
State	10.1	11.5	9.1

Housing

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

7. Housing characteristics, 1990-2000

	Tama County		State	
	1990	2000	1990	2000
Total units	7,417	7,583	1,143,669	1,232,511
Percent of units:				
Owner-occupied	68.7	71.7	64.0	67.5
Renter-occupied	22.6	20.8	26.2	25.8
Vacant/seasonal	8.8	7.5	9.8	6.8
10 or fewer years old	7.0	9.7	10.0	12.3
40 or more years old	57.7	64.4	42.9	51.1
Single detached homes	85.9	85.2	74.6	74.0
Mobile homes	4.6	4.8	5.0	5.3
Median value	\$32,100	\$64,200	\$45,900	\$82,500
Median gross rent	\$304	\$418	\$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:			
Tama County	8,220	9,040	8,500
State	1,448,000	1,572,800	1,563,100
Employment rate (%):			
Tama County	95.6	97.1	96.2
State	95.7	97.5	97.4

Occupation

Among the 8,500 employed persons age 16 or older in Tama 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>Tama County</u>	<u>State</u>
Total employed	8,500	1,489,816
Percentage in:		
Management, professional or related occupations	26.0	31.3
Service occupations	18.2	14.8
Sales and office occupations	23.3	25.9
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	1.7	1.1
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	10.3	8.9
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	20.5	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 Tama County to work are not counted, but non-county residents who commute into Tama 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 (%)			
	<u>1990</u>	Tama County		Tama County		State	
		<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>
All Industries	137,950	192,544	200,506	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Farm	21,120	14,791	25,464	15.3	12.7	6.0	4.2
Manufacturing	24,280	30,490	21,147	17.6	10.5	22.6	19.8
Retail	10,286	12,601	12,961	7.5	6.5	9.6	9.2
Finance *	4,592	6,789	7,128	3.3	3.6	6.1	7.9
Services	20,127	55,779	61,300	14.6	30.6	19.6	22.9
Government	24,327	34,078	34,960	17.6	17.4	16.8	15.9
Other **	33,218	38,016	37,546	24.1	18.7	19.2	20.1

* Finance, insurance, and real estate

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

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.

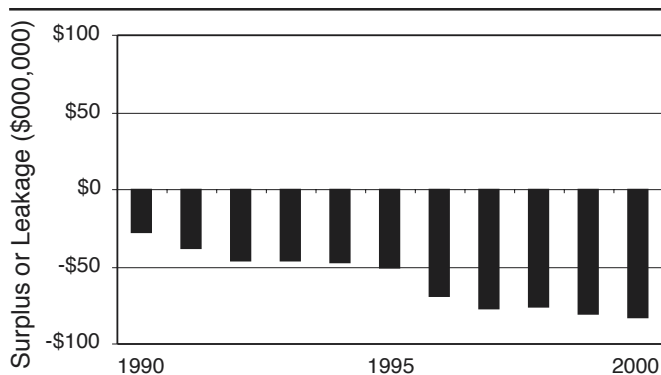
11. Tama County retail sales

	Number of Retail Firms	Total sales (millions)	Per capita sales	Pull factor
1996	625	\$75.13	\$4,226	0.51
1997	617	\$76.86	\$4,348	0.51
1998	621	\$83.37	\$4,719	0.53
1999	609	\$80.77	\$4,553	0.49
2000	606	\$81.01	\$4,475	0.47

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, Tama County



12. Retail sales by merchandise category, Tama 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	\$3.43	\$3.87	\$3.99	18	17	17	4.6	4.8	4.9	-\$7.61
General Merchandise	\$8.04	\$6.13	\$7.24	16	9	9	10.7	7.6	8.9	-\$17.48
Food	\$11.33	\$12.24	\$12.72	13	12	12	15.1	15.2	15.7	-\$11.61
Apparel	\$0.53	*	*	6	*	*	0.7	*	*	*
Home Furnishings	\$1.09	\$1.24	\$1.13	11	13	11	1.5	1.5	1.4	-\$5.92
Eating and drinking	\$7.57	\$7.54	\$7.14	44	42	42	10.1	9.3	8.8	-\$7.00
Specialty Stores	\$2.35	\$2.60	\$2.46	103	103	104	3.1	3.2	3.0	-\$10.00
Services	\$9.25	\$9.79	\$9.34	203	201	200	12.3	12.1	11.5	-\$12.23
Wholesale	\$8.52	\$8.61	\$8.78	67	59	56	11.3	10.7	10.8	-\$6.40
Other	\$23.00	\$28.76	\$28.21	145	154	155	30.6	35.6	34.8	
Total	\$75.13	\$80.77	\$81.01	625	609	606	100.0	100.0	100.0	-\$82.52

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

... and justice for all

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Many materials can be made available in alternative formats for ADA clients. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964.

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 this county profile was derived from data from:

Iowa Workforce Development (Table 8), the United States Bureau of Economic Analysis (Table 10), the ISU Extension Retail Trade Analysis Program (Tables 11 and 12 and Figure 1), and the United States Bureau of the Census (all other tables)

This series was prepared by:

Margie Hanson, Census Services, with assistance from Georgeanne Artz, Extension Retail Analysis Program, and Mark Imerman, Rural Data Project, at Iowa State University.

For more information on these and other topics, please call the extension specialists listed on the cover page or visit the extension internet site at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/communities/>