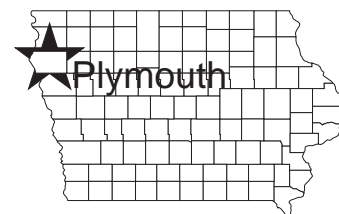


Employment and Earnings Data for Decision Makers

Plymouth County



Working Age Population

Plymouth County is a non-metropolitan county in northwest Iowa. The working age population (ages 16 to 64) in Plymouth County declined 1.0 percent between 1980 and 1998. Statewide, the working age population decreased 0.5 percent over that period.

1. Total population and the working age population, Plymouth County, 1980-1998.

Year	Total Population	Population 16 to 64 Years of Age	Percent of Total	
			Plymouth County	State
1980	24,743	14,730	59.5	62.1
1990	23,388	13,467	57.6	61.4
1998	24,825	14,585	58.8	62.9

Labor Force

The labor force in an area consists of all persons aged 16 or older who either are currently employed or actively seeking work. The number employed reflects the number of labor force participants in the county who currently have jobs (whether or not it is the job of their choice). The employment rate is the percent of labor force participants who are employed.

2. Labor force and employment rates, Plymouth County, 1980-1998

Year	Labor force	Number employed	Employment Rate	
			Plymouth County	State
1980	11,420	10,940	95.8	94.2
1990	11,810	11,456	97.0	95.7
1998	12,520	12,170	97.2	97.2

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Employment and Earnings by Industry

The employment data in Tables 3 and 4 represent employment by place of work rather than place of residence. This means that the information is based on the jobs located within the county, whether or not county residents fill those jobs. As a result, county residents who commute to jobs outside their county of residence are not counted in these figures, but non-county residents who commute into the county for work are counted.

3. Percent of total employment by industry, 1980-1998

Industry	1980		1990		1998	
	Plymouth County	State	Plymouth County	State	Plymouth County	State
Farm	23.9	10.5	18.2	7.9	13.6	6.0
Construction	5.0	4.8	3.8	4.3	5.8	5.2
Manufacturing	6.9	16.2	12.8	14.7	**	14.1
Transportation	4.9	4.5	6.4	4.2	6.1	4.4
Wholesale Trade	6.1	5.4	4.3	5.0	5.8	4.8
Retail Trade	17.3	16.5	16.8	17.0	16.8	17.4
FIRE *	6.3	7.1	5.4	6.6	5.7	6.8
Service	17.5	19.8	19.2	24.5	18.9	26.8
Government	10.8	14.3	11.4	14.2	10.6	13.0
Other	1.3	0.9	1.9	1.4	16.7	1.5

4. Earnings of employed persons by industry, 1980-1998

Industry	1980		1990		1998	
	Plymouth County	State	Plymouth County	State	Plymouth County	State
Total earnings (\$000)	93,947	19,547,180	213,556	32,466,920	324,945	49,141,500
<i>Percent from</i>						
Farm	-4.8	3.2	18.1	6.2	14.5	3.4
Construction	9.0	6.6	4.7	5.3	5.2	6.3
Manufacturing	14.5	27.5	19.8	22.9	**	21.1
Transportation	10.3	7.2	10.1	6.2	9.6	6.2
Wholesale Trade	14.3	8.0	6.3	6.8	8.1	7.0
Retail Trade	16.1	10.6	10.1	9.7	8.2	9.2
FIRE *	6.0	5.4	4.4	6.2	4.9	7.7
Service	19.1	16.4	13.2	19.9	12.5	22.3
Government	13.3	14.0	11.5	15.7	11.5	15.8

* FIRE refers to the Finance, Investment and Real Estate industry

** Data withheld to protect confidentiality when a limited number of businesses report.

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