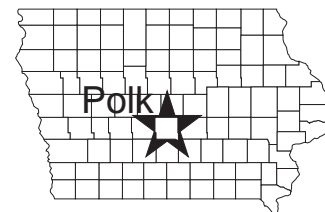


Employment and Earnings Data for Decision Makers

Polk County



Working Age Population

Polk County is a metropolitan county in central Iowa. The working age population (ages 16 to 64) in Polk County increased 21.4 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, Polk County, 1980-1998.

Year	Total Population	Population 16 to 64 Years of Age	Percent of Total	
			Polk County	State
1980	303,170	198,893	65.6	62.1
1990	327,140	215,381	65.8	61.4
1998	359,826	241,380	67.1	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, Polk County, 1980-1998

Year	Labor force	Number employed	Employment Rate	
			Polk County	State
1980	165,800	156,500	94.4	94.2
1990	189,500	183,436	96.8	95.7
1998	212,500	208,000	97.9	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	
	Polk County	State	Polk County	State	Polk County	State
Farm	0.7	10.5	0.4	7.9	0.3	6.0
Construction	4.6	4.8	4.5	4.3	4.8	5.2
Manufacturing	12.0	16.2	9.8	14.7	7.5	14.1
Transportation	6.0	4.5	5.2	4.2	4.7	4.4
Wholesale Trade	6.9	5.4	7.1	5.0	7.0	4.8
Retail Trade	16.9	16.5	16.9	17.0	17.7	17.4
FIRE *	14.3	7.1	14.9	6.6	15.6	6.8
Service	24.1	19.8	28.5	24.5	30.7	26.8
Government	13.9	14.3	12.0	14.2	10.9	13.0
Other	0.6	0.9	0.7	1.4	0.8	1.5

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

Industry	1980		1990		1998	
	Polk County	State	Polk County	State	Polk County	State
Total earnings (\$000)	3,171,479	19,547,180	6,107,680	32,466,920	9,908,719	49,141,500
<i>Percent from</i>						
Farm	0.2	3.2	0.2	6.2	0.1	3.4
Construction	6.2	6.6	5.1	5.3	5.7	6.3
Manufacturing	17.9	27.5	13.9	22.9	10.0	21.1
Transportation	8.9	7.2	6.7	6.2	5.6	6.2
Wholesale Trade	10.0	8.0	10.0	6.8	10.6	7.0
Retail Trade	10.1	10.6	9.2	9.7	8.9	9.2
FIRE *	12.4	5.4	16.3	6.2	20.1	7.7
Service	20.0	16.4	24.8	19.9	25.2	22.3
Government	13.6	14.0	13.3	15.7	13.2	15.8

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

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