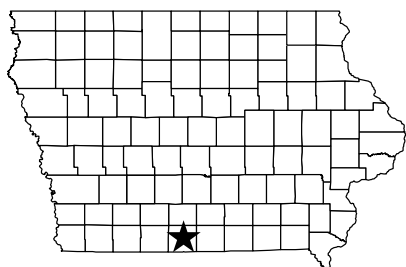


Older Iowans Data for Decision Makers



Decatur County

Population Profile

Decatur County is a non-metropolitan county in southwest Iowa. The total population in the county increased 4.2 percent from 1990 to 2000. At the same time, the population 55 years or older decreased 6.1 percent. Statewide, total population increased 5.4 percent and the population over the age of 54 increased 2.6 percent during that period. Females consistently outnumbered males in the older age groups.

1. Population 55 years or older

	Decatur County			State		
	1980	1990	2000	1980	1990	2000
Total population	9,794	8,338	8,689	2,913,808	2,776,755	2,926,324
Percent 55 or older	28.0	30.1	27.1	22.9	24.3	23.7
Population 55 or older	2,744	2,513	2,359	666,509	675,794	693,625
55 to 59	450	376	427	145,854	122,335	139,052
60 to 64	499	427	397	133,071	127,353	118,360
65 to 69	467	411	388	117,905	122,454	107,373
70 to 74	438	431	361	96,949	104,507	104,562
75 to 79	350	328	302	75,104	84,486	91,505
80 to 84	279	270	240	52,686	59,404	67,655
85 or older	261	270	244	44,940	55,255	65,118

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Summary File 1.

2. Population 55 years or older by sex, Decatur County

	1990					2000				
	Total	Male		Female		Total	Male		Female	
		n	%	n	%		n	%	n	%
Population 55 or older	2,513	1,096	43.6	1,417	56.4	2,359	1,015	43.0	1,344	57.0
55 to 59	376	184	7.3	192	7.6	427	193	8.2	234	9.9
60 to 64	427	191	7.6	236	9.4	397	198	8.4	199	8.4
65 to 69	411	195	7.8	216	8.6	388	189	8.0	199	8.4
70 to 74	431	183	7.3	248	9.9	361	160	6.8	201	8.5
75 to 79	328	151	6.0	177	7.0	302	126	5.3	176	7.5
80 to 84	270	103	4.1	167	6.6	240	77	3.3	163	6.9
85 or older	270	89	3.5	181	7.2	244	72	3.1	172	7.3

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Summary File 1.

For more information contact ...

Your County Extension Education Director

Jack Van Laar
309 North Main Street
Leon, IA 50144-1451

Phone: (641) 446-4723
E-mail: xdecatur@iastate.edu

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Living Arrangement Profile

The majority of older persons in Decatur County lived in family households in 2000, which means they lived with at least one other person related by blood, marriage, or adoption. Among the 547 older persons living in nonfamily households in Decatur County, 94.5 percent were persons living alone, the majority of which were female. Relatively few older residents lived in group quarter settings (e.g., nursing homes).

3. Living arrangements of persons 65 years or older, 2000

	Decatur County		State
	n	%	%
Total persons 65 years or older	1,535	100.0	100.0
Living in family households	878	57.2	60.1
Living in nonfamily households	547	35.6	31.5
Males living alone	121	---	---
Females living alone	396	---	---
Living in group quarters	110	7.2	8.4

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Summary File 1.

Education and Employment Profile

Among residents in Decatur County age 65 or older in 2000, 68.2 percent had at least a high school diploma and 9.5 percent had graduated college. Statewide, the percentages were 70.6 and 11.5, respectively.

4. Educational attainment of persons 65 years or older, 2000

	Decatur County		State
	n	%	%
Total persons 65 years or older	1,532	100.0	100.0
Less than high school	487	31.8	29.4
High school graduate	646	42.2	42.0
Less than 4 years college	253	16.5	17.1
4 or more years college	146	9.5	11.5

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Summary File 3.

Two statistics are important when considering employment among older lowans; labor force participation and employment. Although the number of older lowans participating in the labor force declined steadily with age in 2000, the proportion of labor force participants employed remained quite high.

5. Labor force participation and employment for persons 65 years or older, 2000

	Population 65 Years or Older			In the Civilian Labor Force			Number Employed		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Decatur County									
Total persons 65 years or older	1,532	623	909	284	169	115	284	169	115
Persons 65 to 69	394	191	203	133	81	52	133	81	52
Persons 70 to 74	358	159	199	104	59	45	104	59	45
Persons 75 or older	780	273	507	47	29	18	47	29	18

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Summary File 3.

Income and Poverty Profile

Median household income among householders 65 to 74 years of age in Decatur County was \$25,093 in 1999, compared to the \$15,274 median of householders 75 years or age or older. Statewide these medians were \$29,804 and \$21,230, respectively. In most cases median income in nonfamily households were lower.

6. Median household income (\$) by age of householder, 1999

	Decatur County	State
Median household income (\$)	27,343	39,469
Householder 65 to 74 years (\$)	25,093	29,804
Householder 75 or older (\$)	15,274	21,230
Median nonfamily household income (\$)	14,503	22,454
Male householder 65 years or older living alone (\$)	11,667	18,759
Female householder 65 years or older living alone (\$)	12,957	15,101

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Summary File 3.

In 2000, 13.7 percent of the persons 65 or older in Decatur County lived below the poverty line compared to 7.7 percent statewide. Poverty rates tended to be higher among older females than among older males both in the county and across the state. NOTE: poverty rates are not determined for nursing home residents.

7. Poverty status for persons 65 years or older, 1999

	Total		Male			Female			
	Decatur County	State	Decatur County	State	Decatur County	State	Decatur County	State	
	n	% of age group	n	% of age group	n	% of age group	n	% of age group	
Total persons 65 years or older in poverty	193	13.7	7.7	64	10.9	5.1	129	15.7	9.6
Persons 65 to 74	75	10.0	5.6	28	8.0	4.4	47	11.7	6.6
Persons 75 or older	118	18.0	10.0	36	15.1	6.2	82	19.6	12.3

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Summary File 3.

Housing Profile

Among the 3,337 occupied housing units in Decatur County, 30.3 percent were headed by a person 55 years of age or older. Statewide that percentage was 24.5. The vast majority of these householders owned their homes rather than rented—both in the county and across the state.

8. Tenure of occupied housing units with householders 65 years or older, 2000

	Total Occupied Units		Owner-Occupied			Renter-Occupied		
	Decatur County		Decatur County	State		Decatur County	State	
	n	%	n	%	%	n	%	%
Total householders 65 years or older	1,012	100.0	785	77.6	80.0	227	22.4	20.0
Householder 65 to 74 years	492	100.0	418	85.0	85.2	74	15.0	14.8
Householder 75 to 84 years	378	100.0	284	75.1	78.4	94	24.9	21.6
Householder 85 years or older	142	100.0	83	58.5	66.0	59	41.5	34.0

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Summary File 3.

Housing Profile (continued)

Older populations tend to be less likely to change residence than younger persons; therefore they are likely to have lived in their current housing unit for longer periods of time and those housing units tend to be older units. This is especially true for older homeowners. It should be noted that "assisted living" quarters are included in the renter-occupied numbers.

9. Age of housing units with householders 65 years or older, 2000

	Total		Owner-Occupied			Renter-Occupied		
	Decatur County		Decatur County		State	Decatur County		State
	n	%	n	%	%	n	%	%
Total householders 65 years or older	1,012	100.0	785	100.0	100.0	227	100.0	100.0
Housing units 10 or fewer years old	94	9.3	68	8.7	6.6	26	11.5	13.6
Housing units 40 or more years old	540	53.4	458	58.3	59.9	82	36.1	34.8
Moved into unit since 1990	345	34.1	211	26.9	21.9	134	59.0	67.8
Moved into unit 1969 or earlier	279	27.6	267	34.0	43.7	12	5.3	7.7
Householders 65 to 74 years old	492	100.0	418	100.0	100.0	74	100.0	100.0
Housing units 10 or fewer years old	65	13.2	57	13.6	7.9	8	10.8	12.0
Housing units 40 or more years old	244	49.6	206	49.3	56.6	38	51.4	41.5
Moved into unit since 1990	210	42.7	158	37.8	25.7	52	70.3	72.3
Moved into unit 1969 or earlier	90	18.3	83	19.9	39.0	7	9.5	7.3
Householders 75 years or older	520	100.0	367	100.0	100.0	153	100.0	100.0
Housing units 10 or fewer years old	29	5.6	11	3.0	5.3	18	11.8	14.5
Housing units 40 or more years old	296	56.9	252	68.7	63.4	44	28.8	31.2
Moved into unit since 1990	135	26.0	53	14.4	17.9	82	53.6	65.3
Moved into unit 1969 or earlier	189	36.3	184	50.1	48.6	5	3.3	7.9

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Summary File 3.

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Prepared by

Margie Hanson
with assistance from Georgetanne Artz and
Renea Miller
Office of Social and Economic Trend Analysis (SETA)
303 East Hall
Ames, Iowa 50011-1070

Information in the county profile was derived from data acquired from:

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