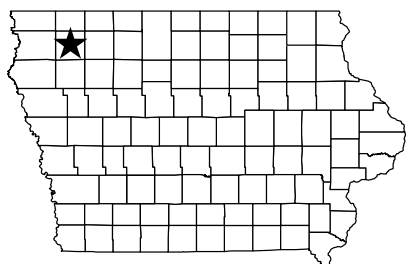


Older Iowans Data for Decision Makers



O'Brien County

Population Profile

O'Brien County is a non-metropolitan county in northwest Iowa. The total population in the county decreased 2.2 percent from 1990 to 2000. At the same time, the population 55 years or older decreased 4.6 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

	O'Brien County			State		
	1980	1990	2000	1980	1990	2000
Total population	16,972	15,444	15,102	2,913,808	2,776,755	2,926,324
Percent 55 or older	28.2	31.1	30.4	22.9	24.3	23.7
Population 55 or older	4,794	4,808	4,586	666,509	675,794	693,625
55 to 59	926	755	693	145,854	122,335	139,052
60 to 64	883	864	702	133,071	127,353	118,360
65 to 69	844	852	733	117,905	122,454	107,373
70 to 74	724	732	738	96,949	104,507	104,562
75 to 79	559	632	654	75,104	84,486	91,505
80 to 84	472	496	500	52,686	59,404	67,655
85 or older	386	477	566	44,940	55,255	65,118

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

2. Population 55 years or older by sex, O'Brien County

	1990					2000				
	Total	Male		Female		Total	Male		Female	
		n	%	n	%		n	%	n	%
Population 55 or older	4,808	1,999	41.6	2,809	58.4	4,586	1,915	41.8	2,671	58.2
55 to 59	755	366	7.6	389	8.1	693	342	7.5	351	7.7
60 to 64	864	386	8.0	478	9.9	702	337	7.3	365	8.0
65 to 69	852	375	7.8	477	9.9	733	332	7.2	401	8.7
70 to 74	732	323	6.7	409	8.5	738	316	6.9	422	9.2
75 to 79	632	265	5.5	367	7.6	654	259	5.6	395	8.6
80 to 84	496	173	3.6	323	6.7	500	181	3.9	319	7.0
85 or older	477	111	2.3	366	7.6	566	148	3.2	418	9.1

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

For more information contact ...

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Living Arrangement Profile

The majority of older persons in O'Brien 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 905 older persons living in nonfamily households in O'Brien County, 97.5 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

	O'Brien County		State
	n	%	%
Total persons 65 years or older	3,191	100.0	100.0
Living in family households	1,892	59.3	60.1
Living in nonfamily households	905	28.4	31.5
Males living alone	144	---	---
Females living alone	738	---	---
Living in group quarters	394	12.3	8.4

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

Education and Employment Profile

Among residents in O'Brien County age 65 or older in 2000, 63.5 percent had at least a high school diploma and 8.7 percent had graduated college. Statewide, the percentages were 70.6 and 11.5, respectively.

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

	O'Brien County		State
	n	%	%
Total persons 65 years or older	3,200	100.0	100.0
Less than high school	1,168	36.5	29.4
High school graduate	1,307	40.8	42.0
Less than 4 years college	446	13.9	17.1
4 or more years college	279	8.7	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
O'Brien County									
Total persons 65 years or older	3,200	1,240	1,960	429	254	175	414	241	173
Persons 65 to 69	792	362	430	235	147	88	226	138	88
Persons 70 to 74	685	292	393	124	63	61	121	62	59
Persons 75 or older	1,723	586	1,137	70	44	26	67	41	26

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 O'Brien County was \$29,805 in 1999, compared to the \$22,365 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

	O'Brien County	State
Median household income (\$)	35,758	39,469
Householder 65 to 74 years (\$)	29,805	29,804
Householder 75 or older (\$)	22,365	21,230
Median nonfamily household income (\$)	20,752	22,454
Male householder 65 years or older living alone (\$)	22,308	18,759
Female householder 65 years or older living alone (\$)	17,132	15,101

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

In 2000, 6 percent of the persons 65 or older in O'Brien 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			
	O'Brien County	State	O'Brien County	State	O'Brien County	State	O'Brien County	State	
	n	% of age group	n	% of age group	% of age group	n	% of age group	% of age group	
Total persons 65 years or older in poverty	169	6.0	7.7	29	2.5	5.1	140	8.4	9.6
Persons 65 to 74	60	4.1	5.6	15	2.3	4.4	45	5.5	6.6
Persons 75 or older	109	7.9	10.0	14	2.7	6.2	95	11.1	12.3

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

Housing Profile

Among the 6,001 occupied housing units in O'Brien County, 31.5 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		
	O'Brien County	State	O'Brien County	State	%	O'Brien County	State	%
	n	%	n	%	%	n	%	%
Total householders 65 years or older	1,893	100.0	1,656	87.5	80.0	237	12.5	20.0
Householder 65 to 74 years	869	100.0	792	91.1	85.2	77	8.9	14.8
Householder 75 to 84 years	760	100.0	660	86.8	78.4	100	13.2	21.6
Householder 85 years or older	264	100.0	204	77.3	66.0	60	22.7	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		
	O'Brien County		O'Brien County		State	O'Brien County		State
	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>
Total householders 65 years or older	1,893	100.0	1,656	100.0	100.0	237	100.0	100.0
Housing units 10 or fewer years old	158	8.3	142	8.6	6.6	16	6.8	13.6
Housing units 40 or more years old	1,040	54.9	944	57.0	59.9	96	40.5	34.8
Moved into unit since 1990	584	30.9	446	26.9	21.9	138	58.2	67.8
Moved into unit 1969 or earlier	576	30.4	548	33.1	43.7	28	11.8	7.7
Householders 65 to 74 years old	869	100.0	792	100.0	100.0	77	100.0	100.0
Housing units 10 or fewer years old	90	10.4	90	11.4	7.9	0	0.0	12.0
Housing units 40 or more years old	492	56.6	462	58.3	56.6	30	39.0	41.5
Moved into unit since 1990	289	33.3	240	30.3	25.7	49	63.6	72.3
Moved into unit 1969 or earlier	280	32.2	265	33.5	39.0	15	19.5	7.3
Householders 75 years or older	1,024	100.0	864	100.0	100.0	160	100.0	100.0
Housing units 10 or fewer years old	68	6.6	52	6.0	5.3	16	10.0	14.5
Housing units 40 or more years old	548	53.5	482	55.8	63.4	66	41.3	31.2
Moved into unit since 1990	295	28.8	206	23.8	17.9	89	55.6	65.3
Moved into unit 1969 or earlier	296	28.9	283	32.8	48.6	13	8.1	7.9

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

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U.S. Bureau of the Census

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