

1950 CENSUS OF POPULATION**PRELIMINARY REPORTS**

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CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION OF IOWA

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(This is one of a series of reports presenting figures on selected characteristics of the population of the smaller States. In this series, reports are numbered alphabetically by States. Additional reports will be issued as figures for other States become available. Preliminary sample data for the larger States, not covered in this series, will be found in Series PC-6)

Gains in the population of Iowa between 1940 and 1950 were most marked among young children and elderly persons, according to figures from the 1950 Census of Population released today by Roy V. Peel, Director, Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce. Although the total population of the State increased by 82,805, or 3.3 percent, during the decade, the number of children under 5 years of age increased by 73,117, or 35.3 percent, and the number of persons 65 years old and over increased by 19.9 percent. On the other hand, the number of persons 15 to 24 years old decreased by 15.6 percent. The 1950 Census was the first to record an excess of females over males in the population of the State. Between 1940 and 1950, the non-white population of the State increased by 22.4 percent as compared with an increase of 3.1 percent for the white population.

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS AND EXPLANATIONS

Urban and rural residence.--Under the urban definition established for use in the 1950 Census, the urban population comprises all persons living in (a) places of 2,500 inhabitants or more incorporated as cities, boroughs, towns,¹ and villages; (b) the densely settled urban fringe, including both incorporated and unincorporated areas, around cities of 50,000 or more; and (c) unincorporated places of 2,500 inhabitants or more outside any urban fringe. The remaining population

is classified as rural. According to the definition used in previous censuses, urban population comprised all persons living in incorporated places of 2,500 inhabitants or more and areas (usually minor civil divisions) classified as urban under special rules relating to population size and density.

Farm and nonfarm residence.--The rural population is subdivided into the rural-farm population, which comprises all rural residents living on farms, and the rural-nonfarm population, which comprises the remaining rural population. However, the method of determining farm and nonfarm residence in the 1950 Census differs somewhat from that used in earlier censuses. In the 1950 Census, persons on "farms" who were paying cash rent for their house and yard only were classified as nonfarm; furthermore, persons in institutions, summer camps, and tourist courts were classified as nonfarm.

Color.--The group designated as "non-white" consists of Negroes, Indians, Japanese, Chinese, and other nonwhite races. Persons of Mexican birth or ancestry who are not definitely Indian or of other nonwhite race are classified as white.

Age.--The age classification is based on the age of the person at his last birthday before the date of the census, that is, the age of the person in completed years. The median age may be defined as that age which divides the population into two equal groups--one-half being older and one-half younger than the median.

¹ Except in New England, New York, and Wisconsin, where "towns" are minor civil divisions of counties and are not necessarily densely settled centers like the towns in other States.

(over)

P R E L I M I N A R Y

Table 1.--COLOR BY SEX, FOR IOWA, URBAN AND RURAL: 1950 AND 1940

Color and sex	The State			Urban, 1950	Rural, 1950	Percent distribution			
	1950	1940	Percent change, 1940 to 1950			The State		Urban, 1950	Rural, 1950
						1950	1940		
Total.....	2,621,073	2,538,268	3.3	1,250,938	1,370,135	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	2,599,566	2,520,691	3.1	1,231,349	1,368,217	99.2	99.3	98.4	99.9
Nonwhite.....	21,507	17,577	22.4	19,589	1,918	0.8	0.7	1.6	0.1
Male.....	1,310,025	1,280,494	2.3	605,339	704,686	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	1,298,877	1,271,503	2.2	595,297	703,580	99.1	99.3	98.3	99.8
Nonwhite.....	11,148	8,991	24.0	10,042	1,106	0.9	0.7	1.7	0.2
Female.....	1,311,048	1,257,774	4.2	645,599	665,449	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	1,300,689	1,249,188	4.1	636,052	664,637	99.2	99.3	98.5	99.9
Nonwhite.....	10,359	8,586	20.6	9,547	812	0.8	0.7	1.5	0.1

Table 2.--AGE BY SEX, FOR IOWA, URBAN AND RURAL: 1950 AND 1940

Age and sex	The State			Urban, 1950	Rural nonfarm, 1950	Rural farm, 1950	Percent distribution				
	1950	1940	Per- cent change, 1940 to 1950				The State		Urban, 1950	Rural non- farm, 1950	Rural farm, 1950
							1950	1940			
Total population.....	2,621,073	2,538,268	3.3	1,250,938	587,529	782,606	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Percent by residence	100.0	...	...	47.7	22.4	29.9	...	...	...	...	...
Under 5 years.....	280,234	207,117	35.3	127,009	60,071	93,154	10.7	8.2	10.2	10.2	11.9
5 to 14 years.....	425,098	416,733	2.0	176,305	90,453	158,340	16.2	16.4	14.1	15.4	20.2
15 to 24 years.....	373,984	443,131	-15.6	189,164	73,040	111,780	14.3	17.5	15.1	12.4	14.3
25 to 34 years.....	373,911	372,529	0.4	189,829	75,907	108,175	14.3	14.7	15.2	12.9	13.8
35 to 44 years.....	336,375	333,745	0.8	162,784	67,995	105,596	12.8	13.1	13.0	11.6	13.5
45 to 54 years.....	298,905	307,883	-2.9	145,237	63,228	90,440	11.4	12.1	11.6	10.8	11.6
55 to 64 years.....	259,371	229,363	13.1	126,977	65,453	66,941	9.9	9.0	10.2	11.1	8.6
65 years and over.....	273,195	227,767	19.9	133,633	91,382	48,180	10.4	9.0	10.7	15.6	6.2
Median age.....years..	31.2	30.4	...	32.0	34.2	27.6	...	...	...	...	...
Male.....	1,310,025	1,280,494	2.3	605,339	288,681	416,005	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years.....	143,634	105,790	35.8	65,057	30,716	47,861	11.0	8.3	10.7	10.6	11.5
5 to 14 years.....	217,388	211,892	2.6	89,156	46,237	81,995	16.6	16.5	14.7	16.0	19.7
15 to 24 years.....	185,400	222,030	-16.5	88,695	34,668	62,037	14.2	17.3	14.7	12.0	14.9
25 to 34 years.....	185,599	186,284	-0.4	93,626	37,281	54,692	14.2	14.5	15.5	12.9	13.1
35 to 44 years.....	168,328	166,681	1.0	78,804	34,126	55,398	12.8	13.0	13.0	11.8	13.3
45 to 54 years.....	148,878	157,456	-5.4	69,420	30,809	48,649	11.4	12.3	11.5	10.7	11.7
55 to 64 years.....	130,053	116,514	11.6	61,118	31,306	37,629	9.9	9.1	10.1	10.8	9.0
65 years and over.....	130,745	113,847	14.8	59,463	43,538	27,744	10.0	8.9	9.8	15.1	6.7
Median age.....years..	30.9	30.4	...	31.4	33.8	27.9	...	...	...	...	...
Female.....	1,311,048	1,257,774	4.2	645,599	298,848	366,601	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years.....	136,600	101,327	34.8	61,952	29,355	45,293	10.4	8.1	9.6	9.8	12.4
5 to 14 years.....	207,710	204,841	1.4	87,149	44,216	76,345	15.8	16.3	13.5	14.8	20.8
15 to 24 years.....	188,584	221,101	-14.7	100,469	38,372	49,743	14.4	17.6	15.6	12.8	13.6
25 to 34 years.....	188,312	186,245	1.1	96,203	38,626	53,483	14.4	14.8	14.9	12.9	14.6
35 to 44 years.....	168,047	167,064	0.6	83,980	33,869	50,198	12.8	13.3	13.0	11.3	13.7
45 to 54 years.....	150,027	150,427	-0.3	75,817	32,419	41,791	11.4	12.0	11.7	10.8	11.4
55 to 64 years.....	129,318	112,849	14.6	65,859	34,147	29,312	9.9	9.0	10.2	11.4	8.0
65 years and over.....	142,450	113,920	25.0	74,170	47,844	20,436	10.9	9.1	11.5	16.0	5.6
Median age.....years..	31.5	30.5	...	32.6	34.7	27.2	...	...	...	...	...