

# OLDER IOWANS: 2011

A meeting with the National Council of Senior Citizens resulted in President John F. Kennedy designating May 1963 as Senior Citizens Month, encouraging the nation to pay tribute in some way to older people across the country. In 1980, President Jimmy Carter's proclamation changed the name to Older Americans Month, a time to celebrate those 65 and older through ceremonies, events and public recognition.

## 444,294

The estimated number of people age 65 and over in Iowa on July 1, 2009. This age group accounted for 14.8 percent of the total population.

## 257,759

The estimated number of women age 65 and over in Iowa on July 1, 2009. This accounted for 58.0 percent of the age group 65 and over. The estimated number of women age 85 and over on July 1, 2009 was 53,394. This was 70.1 percent of women 85 and over.

## 663,186

The projected population age 65 and older in Iowa in the year 2030. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, this age group will constitute 22.4 percent of the state's total population at that time. In 2000 Iowa ranked 4th in the percentage of population age 65 and older. In 2030 it is projected that Iowa will rank 12th.

## Families and Children

### 58.7%

Percentage of people in Iowa age 65 and older in 2009 who were married.



### 13,435

The number of children under 18 who are being cared for by a grandparent in Iowa in 2009.

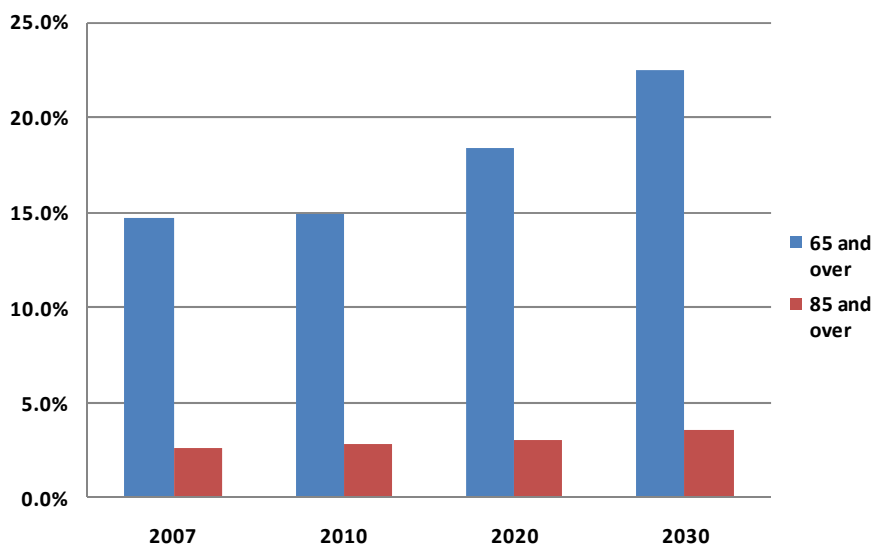
### 30.0%

Percentage of Iowans age 65 and older in 2009 who were widowed.

### 103,679

Number of people 65 & over in 2009 with a disability that have private as well as public insurance.

Projected Iowa Population by Age: 2007-2030



## EDUCATION

**81.9%**

Percent of people age 65 and older in 2009 with at least a high school diploma. The percent of all Iowans age 25 and over with at least a high school diploma was 90.5%.

**15.0%**

Percentage of the population age 65 and older in 2009 who had earned a bachelor's degree or higher education. The percent of all Iowans age 25 and over who had earned a bachelor's degree or higher was 25.1%.

## VOTING

**83.0%**

Percentage of Iowans age 65 and older registered to vote in the 2009 presidential election, the highest rate of any age group. 76.2 percent of people in this age group reported actually casting a ballot.

**19.4%**

Percent of the votes cast by citizens age 65 and older in the 2009 election.



## MIGRATION

**93.7%**

Percent of Iowans age 65 and over who did not move between 2008 and 2009. This can be compared to 83.1% for the state as a whole.

**75.8%**

Percent of Iowans age 65 and over in 2009 who were born in Iowa. The percent of all Iowans born in the state was 72.6%.

**4,313**

The number of people age 65 and over who moved into the state of Iowa between 2008 and 2009. This represented only 6.2% of all the people who moved into the state during that time.

### *Living Arrangements*

**29.1%**

*Percent of Iowans age 65 and over who lived alone in 2009.*

## INCOME AND POVERTY

**\$31,863**

Median 2009 income of households with householders 65 and over. The median income for all households in Iowa in 2008 was \$48,044.

**7.3%**

Poverty rate for people 65 and older in 2009, compared to 11.8% for all Iowans.

**427,910**

The number of 2009 social security beneficiaries aged 65 or older in Iowa. This group collected \$485,942,000 total monthly benefits.

Data provided by the Social Security Administration publication "OASDI Beneficiaries by State and County"

<http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/>

### **Coming to America**

**7,562**

The number of Iowans in 2009 age 65 and over who are foreign born.

# COUNTIES AND CITIES

## 48,212

The number of people age 65 and over in Polk County, making it the largest population of this age group in any county in 2009.

## 23.6%

The percent of total population in Monona county who are age 65 and over in 2009. Other Iowa counties with a high percentage in this age group are Ringgold (22.8%); Sac (22.7%), Calhoun (22.4%), Adair (22.3%), and Audubon (22.1%).

## 25.7%

Over a quarter of Iowans age 65 and over in 2009 lived in Polk, Linn, Scott, and Black Hawk counties.

## 66

The number of Iowa counties with a decrease in the population age 65 and over between 2000 and 2009.

## 24,559

The number of people age 65 and over in Des Moines, making it largest population of this age group in any Iowa city in 2000.

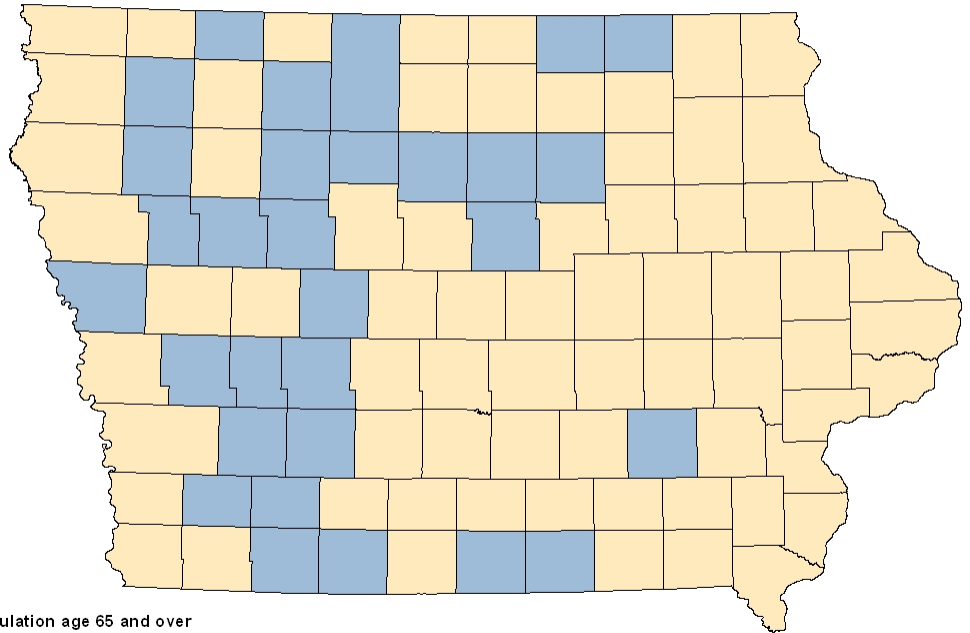
## 90.9%

The percent of total population in Beaconsfield who were age 65 and over in 2000. Other Iowa cities with a high percentage in this age group were Athelstan (55.6%), Berkley (45.8%), Elk Horn (42.4%) and Littleport (42.3%).

## 21.0%

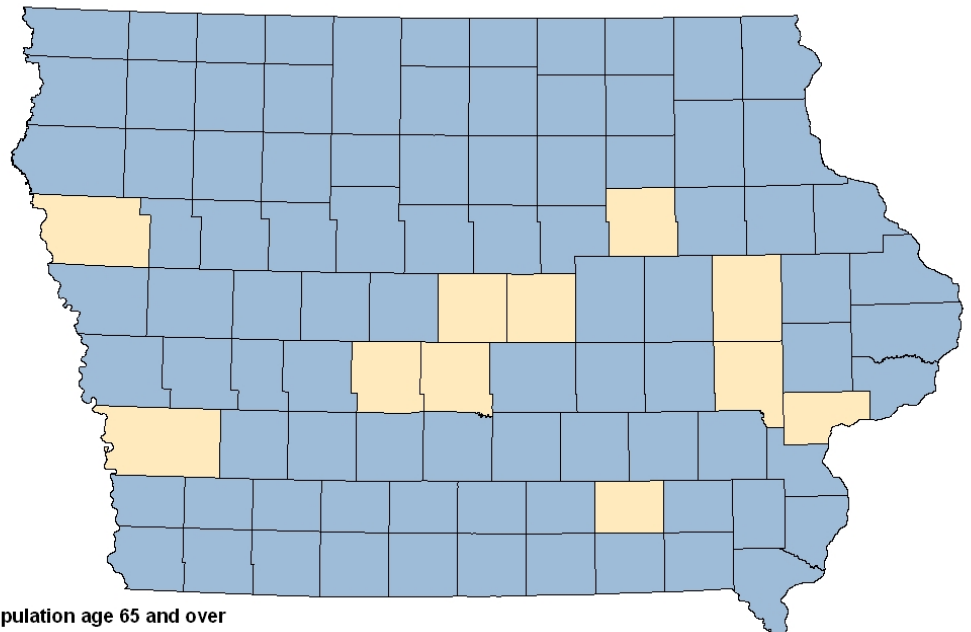
The percent of the total population age 65 and over in 2000 who lived in Des Moines, Cedar Rapids, Davenport, Sioux City and Waterloo.

# 2000



Population age 65 and over  
 Less than 20%  
 20% or more

# 2030



Population age 65 and over  
 Less than 20%  
 20% or more

## 88

The number of Iowa counties in 2030 in which at least 20% of the residents will be age 65 and over according to Woods & Pool Economics, Inc. In 2000 that number was 30.

State Data Center of Iowa a program of the State Library of Iowa

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**We're on the web!**  
[www.iowadatacenter.org](http://www.iowadatacenter.org)  
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Data Source (unless otherwise noted) :  
U.S. Census Bureau,  
U.S. Decennial Census  
1970,1980,1990,2000 and 2010  
American Community Survey,  
2009  
Photos by:  
the U.S. Census Bureau

## EMPLOYMENT

**73,942**

Number of Iowans age 65 and older in 2009 who are in the labor force.

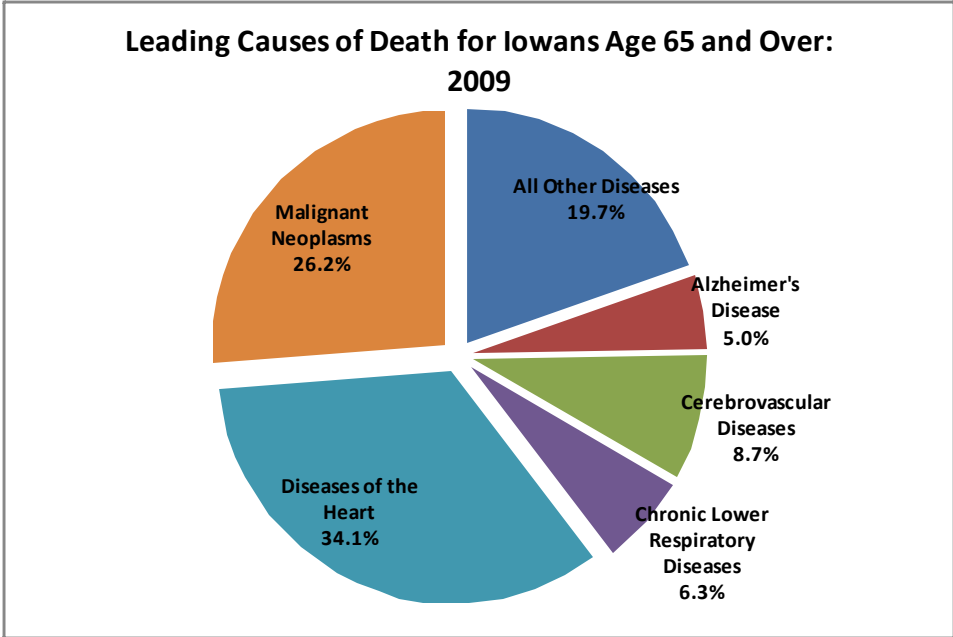
**1.9%**

The unemployment rate in 2009 for Iowans age 65 and over.



**Serving Our Nation**  
**102,028**  
Estimated number of people in 2009 age 65 and older in Iowa who are military veterans.

## VITAL STATS



## DISABILITY

**139,313**

The number of Iowans in 2009 age 65 and over with at least one type of disability.

**37.9%**

The percent of Iowa veterans age 65 and over with a disability.

**At a Glance**

Type of Disability:  
Population 65 and over

2009	
Hearing difficulty	62,791
Vision difficulty	21,204
Cognitive difficulty	29,130
Ambulatory difficulty	82,649
Self-care difficulty	25,998
Independent living difficulty	50,169

### Leading causes of death for all Iowans: 2009

- Disease of the heart—24.3%
- Malignant Neoplasms-21.5%
- Cerebrovascular Disease -7.0%
- Chronic lower respiratory-6.4%
- Alzheimer's Disease-6.3%
- Unintentional injuries-3.4%
- Diabetes Mellitus-2.5%
- Influenza & Pneumonia-2.4%
- Other—26.2%