

# OLDER IOWANS: 2013

MAY 2013

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.

## 457,738

The estimated number of people age 65 and over in Iowa in 2011. This age group accounted for 14.9 percent of the total population.

## 261,196

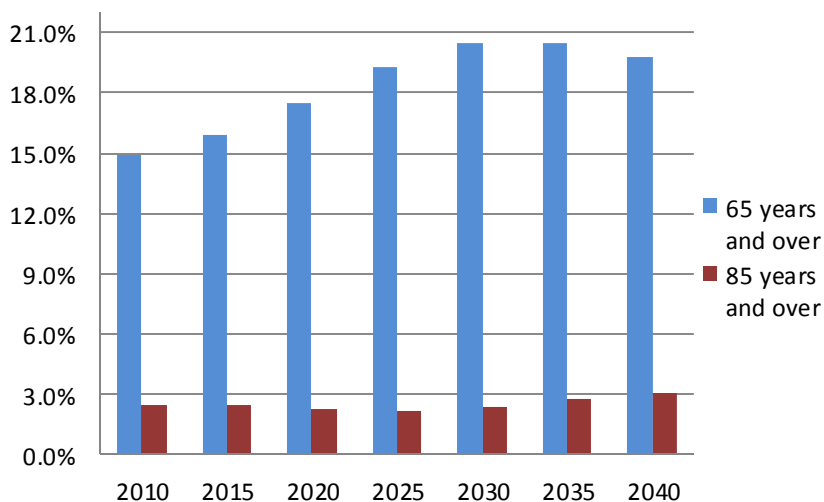
The estimated number of women age 65 and over in Iowa in 2011. This accounted for 57.1 percent of the age group 65 and over. The estimated number of women age 85 and was 52,299. This was 68.2 percent of Iowans 85 and over.

## 680,842

The projected population age 65 and older in Iowa in the year 2040. According to Woods & Poole Economics

Inc., this age group will constitute 19.8 percent of the state's total population at that time. In 2010 Iowa ranked 5th in the percentage of population age 65 and older.

### Projected Iowa Population 2010-2040



### Living Arrangements 29.7%

Percent of Iowans age 65 and over who lived alone in 2011.

## Households and Families

### 57.5%

Percentage of people in Iowa age 65 and older in 2011 who were married.

### 28.9%

Percentage of Iowans age 65 and older in 2011 who were widowed.

### 25,584

Number of Iowans age 65 and older in 2011 who lived in group quarters. Group quarters include nursing facilities; military quarters, correctional facilities as well as college student housing. The age group is 26.1% of the total group quarter population.

### 15,869

The number of children under 18 who are being cared for by a grandparent in Iowa in 2011.

### 144,619

Number of people 65 & over in 2011 with a disability that have private as well as public insurance.

## Income and Poverty

**\$32,757**

Median 2011 income of households with householders 65 and over. The median income for all households in Iowa in 2011 was \$49,427.

**435,929**

The number of 2011 social security beneficiaries aged 65 or older in Iowa. This group collected \$525,651,000 total monthly benefits.

**6.9%**

Poverty rate for people 65 and older in 2011, compared to 12.8% for all Iowans.

Data provided by the Social Security Administration publication "OASDI Beneficiaries by State and County" <http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/>

## Voting

**76.2%**

Percentage of Iowans age 65 and older registered to vote in the 2010 election, the highest rate of any age group. 65.7 percent of people in this age group reported actually casting a ballot.

**24.8%**

Percent of the votes cast by citizens age 65 and older in the 2010 election.

## Education

**83.6%**

Percent of people age 65 and older in 2011 with at least a high school diploma. The percent of all Iowans age 25 and over with at least a high school diploma was 90.6%.

**16.0%**

Percentage of the population age 65 and older in 2011 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 25.8%.



## Migration

**94.8%**

Percent of Iowans age 65 and over who did not move between 2010 and 2011. This can be compared to 85.0% for the state as a whole.

**75.2%**

Percent of Iowans age 65 and over in 2011 who were born in Iowa. The percent of all Iowans born in the state was 72.5%.

**2,458**

The number of people age 65 and over who moved into the state of Iowa between 2010 and 2011. This represented only 3.5% of all the people who moved into the state during that time.

## Employment

**80,300**

Number of Iowans age 65 and older in 2011 who are in the labor force.

**3.9%**

The unemployment rate in 2011 for Iowans age 65 and over.

*Serving Our Nation*  
**22.9%**  
Percentage of people in 2011 age 65 and older in Iowa who are military veterans.

## Disability

**145,546**

The number of Iowans in 2011 age 65 and over with at least one type of disability.

**33.5%**

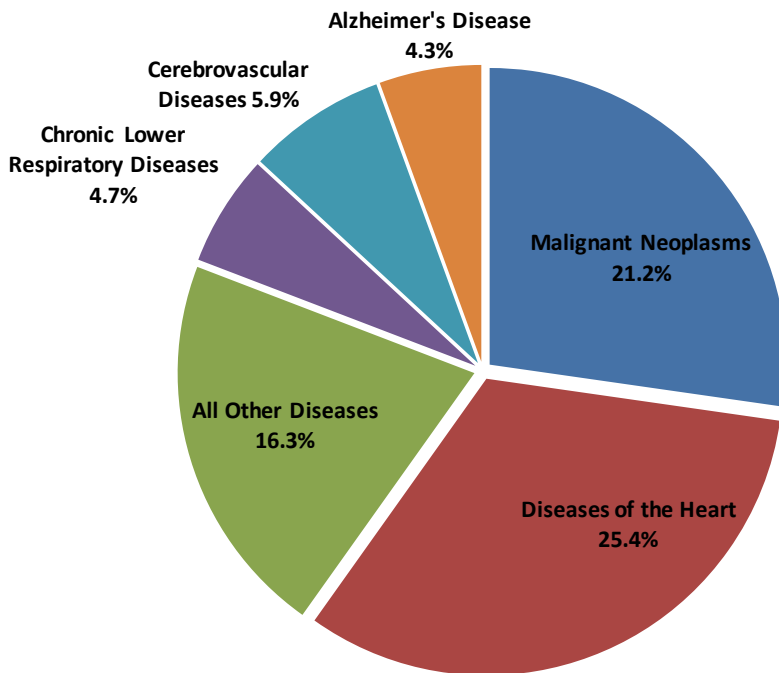
The percent of Iowa veterans age 65 and over with a disability.

Type of Disability:	
Population 65 and over	
2011	
Hearing difficulty	65,317
Vision difficulty	20,964
Cognitive difficulty	30,862
Ambulatory difficulty	86,232
Self-care difficulty	29,918
Independent living difficulty	54,569



## Vital Stats

**Leading Causes of Death for Iowans Age 65 and Over: 2011**



**Leading causes of death for all Iowans: 2011**

- Disease of the heart-23.9%
- Malignant Neoplasms-22.9%
- Chronic lower respiratory-6.5%
- Cerebrovascular Disease -5.1%
- Alzheimer's Disease-5.0%
- Unintentional injuries-4.8%
- Diabetes Mellitus-2.7%
- Influenza & Pneumonia-2.3%
- Other-26.8%

**STATE DATA CENTER  
OF IOWA A PROGRAM  
OF IOWA LIBRARY  
SERVICES/STATE  
LIBRARY**

Miller Building  
1112 E. Grand Ave  
Des Moines, Iowa 50327  
Phone: 800-248-4483  
Fax: 515-242-6543  
E-mail: [census@lib.state.ia.us](mailto:census@lib.state.ia.us)



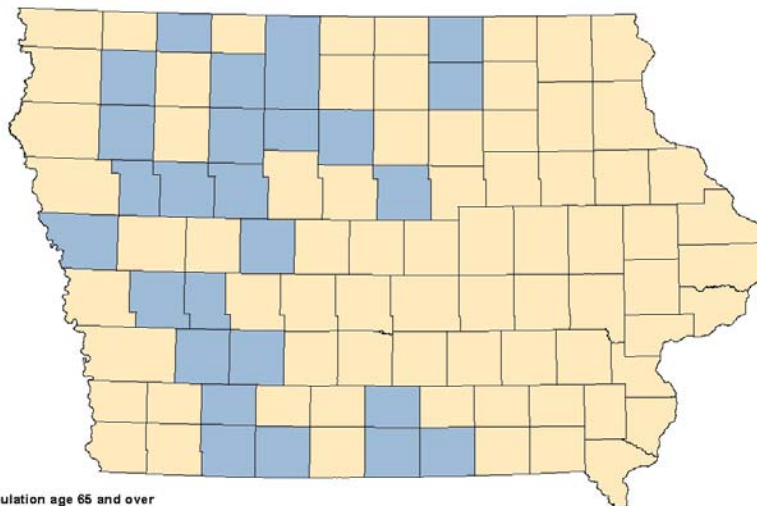
This program is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by Iowa Library Services/State Library of Iowa.



**IOWA DEPARTMENT ON  
AGING**

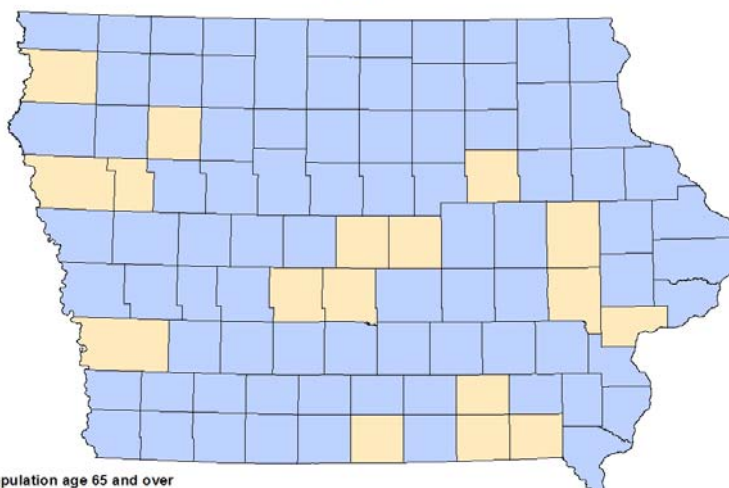
Jessie M. Parker Building  
510 E 12th Street, Suite 2  
Des Moines, IA 50319  
Phone: 800-532-3213  
Email:  
[dick.harmon@iowa.gov](mailto:dick.harmon@iowa.gov)

**2010**



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

**2040**



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

# Counties and Cities

**47,984**

The number of people age 65 and over in Polk County, making it the largest population of this age group in any county in 2011.

**43**

The number of Iowa counties with a decrease in the population age 65 and over between 2010 and 2011.

**44.6%**

The percent of total population in Wahpeton who were age 65 and over in 2010. Other Iowa cities with a high percentage in this age group were Beaconsfield (40.0%), Ledyard (36.9%), Clio (36.3%) and Diagonal (36.1%).

**23.8%**

The percent of total population in Calhoun county who are age 65 and over in 2011. Other Iowa counties with a high percentage in this age group are Monona (23.6%); Ringgold (23.6%), Audubon (23.4%), Dickinson (22.4%), and Sac (22.3%).

**83**

The number of Iowa counties in 2040 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.

**17.8%**

The percent of the total population age 65 and over in 2010 who lived in Des Moines, Cedar Rapids, Davenport, Sioux City, Waterloo, and Dubuque.

**37.0%**

Over a quarter of Iowans age 65 and over in 2011 lived in Polk, Linn, Scott, Black Hawk, Dubuque, Pottawattamie, Woodbury, and Johnson counties.

**22,318**

The number of people age 65 and over in Des Moines, making it largest population of this age group in any Iowa city in 2010.

Data Source (unless otherwise noted):  
U.S. Census Bureau,  
American Community Survey, 2011  
Woods & Poole Economics, Inc. 2013  
Photos by:  
the U.S. Census Bureau