

## STATUS OF AFRICAN-AMERICANS IN IOWA: 2006

To recall and celebrate the positive contributions to our nation made by people of African descent, American historian Carter G. Woodson established Black History Week beginning on Feb. 12, 1926. In 1976, as part of the nation's bi-centennial, the week was expanded into Black History Month.

### 67,596

The estimated African American population in Iowa as of July 1, 2004. African Americans constitute 2.3 percent of the state's total population. In 1980 African Americans made up 1.4 percent of the state's total population.

### 25,896

The numeric change in the African American population from 1980 to 2004. This is a 62.1 percent increase for the period.

### 116,570

The projected African American population of Iowa as 2030. According to Woods & Pool Economics Inc., African Americans will constitute 3.5 percent of the state's total population.

**4,727**

*The number of Iowa African American veterans of the U.S. armed Forces*

**3.33**

*The average family size for the Iowa African American population. The average family size in the state of Iowa is 3.0.*

## FAMILIES AND CHILDREN

### 13,372

The number of African American families who reside in Iowa. Of these families, 64.1 percent include their own children under 18 years of age.

### 43.3%

Percent increase in the number of African American families in the state of Iowa from 1980 to 2000.

### 36.1%

Percentage of African American children who live with both parents compared to 78.9 percent for the state of Iowa. In 1980 this percentage was 41.7 compared to the state of Iowa's 83.6%.

### 7.9%

Percentage of the African American population under age 5, as of July 1, 2004. African Americans have a higher concentration of preschoolers among the population than the state as a whole (6.1%). In 1980 the percentage of the African American population under age 5 was 10.9.



## COUNTIES AND CITIES

**19,367**

The number of African Americans in Polk County, making it largest population of African Americans in any Iowa county.

**8.1%**

The percent of total population in Black Hawk County who are African American. Other Iowa counties with a high percentage of African Americans are Scott (6.2%), Polk (4.9%), Webster (3.7%) and Des Moines (3.7%).

**72.7%**

Nearly three-fourths of the total African American population live in Polk, Black Hawk, Scott, Linn and Johnson counties.

**48.3%**

Almost half of the growth in Iowa's African American population from 2000-2004 occurred in three counties: Polk, Johnson and Linn.

**16,025**

The number of African Americans in Des Moines in 2000, making it largest population of African

Americans in any city in Iowa.

**13.9%**

The percent of the total population in Waterloo who are African American. Other Iowa cities with a high percentage of African Americans are Davenport (9.2%), Balltown (8.2%), Des Moines (8.1%) and Anamosa (6.1%).

**56.0%**

The percentage of Iowa's total African American population living in three cities: Des Moines, Waterloo and Davenport.

## AT A GLANCE

### Top 5 counties:

	African American Population	
	1980	2004
Polk	13,884	19,367
Black Hawk	8,733	10,152
Scott	6,453	9,996
Linn	2,962	5,663
Woodbury	1,019	
Johnson		3,998

### Top 5 cities:

	African American Population	
	1980	2000
Des Moines	13,164	16,025
Waterloo	8,398	9,529
Davenport	6,229	9,093
Cedar Rapids	2,743	4,481
Sioux City	1,015	
Iowa City		2,333

## INCOME AND POVERTY

**\$24,938**

The median income of African American households in 2000. The median household income for the state was \$39,469.

**\$45,827**

The median income of African American married-couple families in Iowa. The median income of married-couple families in Iowa was 52,409.

**\$12,400**

The per capita money income of Iowa African Americans in 2000. The per capita money income for the state was \$19,674.

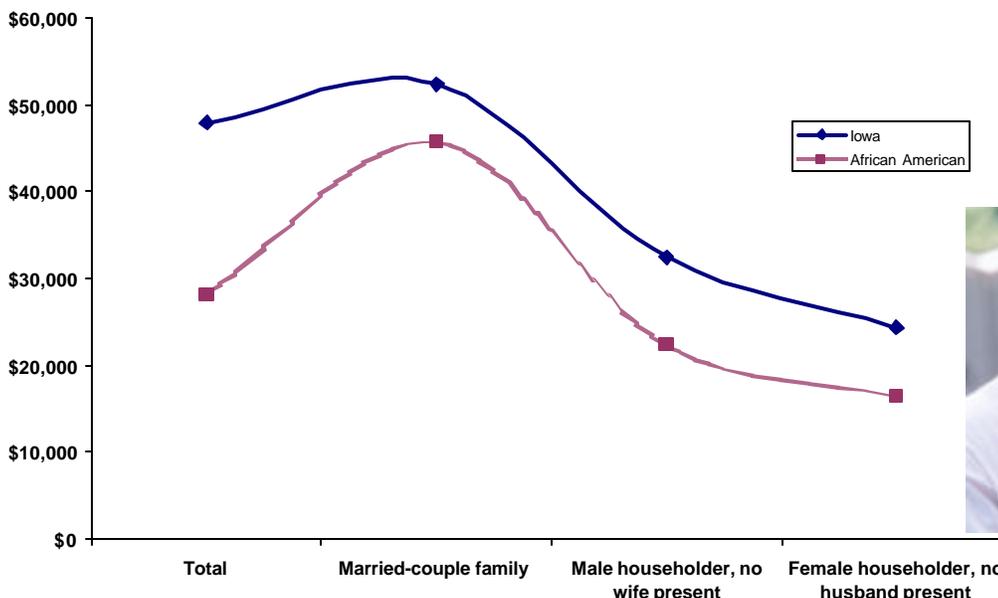
**31.6%**

The poverty rate for the African American population. The corresponding rate for Iowa is 9.1 percent.

**39.3%**

The percentage of related children under 18 below the poverty level for the African American population. The corresponding rate for Iowa is 10.5 percent.

Median Family Income by Type of Family



## BUSINESSES AND JOBS

**1,619**

The number of African American-owned firms in Iowa in 2002.

**130.3%**

The percent increase in African American-owned firms between 1987 and 2002.

**14.2%**

The unemployment rate for Iowa African Americans in 2000. The Iowa unemployment rate at that time was 4.2%.

**63.7%**

The percent of Iowa African Americans age 16 and over in the labor force. The percent of Iowans age 16 and over in the labor force was 68.2%.

**64.0%**

The percent of Iowa African Americans males age 16 and over in the labor force. The percent of Iowa African Americans females in the labor force was 63.4%. In comparison 74.2% of all men and 62.7% of all women age 16 and over were in the labor force in Iowa.

### Earnings

**\$16,509**

The median earnings for Iowa African Americans. The median earnings for the state of Iowa was \$21,406.

**\$18,222**

The median earnings for Iowa African American males. African American women in Iowa had median earnings of \$15,043. In comparison the median earning for men and women in the state of Iowa were \$26,828 and \$16,663 respectively.

### Industry

**5,770**

The number of Iowa African Americans employed in the educational, health, and social services industry.

**19.4%**

The percent of African Americans who work in the manufacturing industry. Approximately 10 percent work in the arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services industry; 9.9 percent in retail trade; and 7.6 percent work in professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services.

### Occupation

**25.2%**

The percent of Iowa African Americans in sales and office occupations.

**1,254**

The number of Iowa African American in building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations. African Americans are represented in a wide variety of occupa-

tions. For instance, there are about 992 cooks and food preparation workers; 743 nursing, psychiatric, and home health aides; 644 customer service representatives; and 602 child care workers.

**26.4%**

The percent of African American women in Iowa age 16 years and over in management, professional, and related occupations. 19.0% of African American men in Iowa are in this occupation.

**22.6%**

The percent of African Americans in Iowa age 16 years and over in management, professional, and related occupations. In Iowa this occupation accounts for 31.3% of all people age 16 years and over.

## HOUSING

**\$62,100**

The median home value for those who reported their race as African American. The corresponding value for the state is \$82,500.

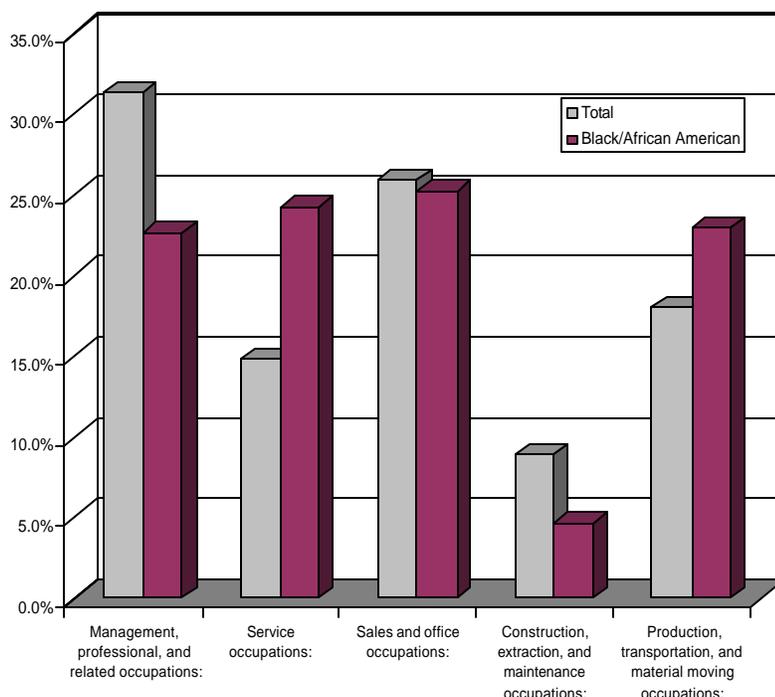
**62.3%**

The percentage of those householders who reported their race as African American who rent their home. The corresponding percentage for the state is 27.7%.

**23.1%**

The percentage of those householders who reported their race as African American whose gross rent as a percentage of household income was over 50%. The corresponding percentage for the state is 14.4%.

Employment by Occupation (Percent of Population)





Iowa Commission on the Status of African-Americans

**Iowa Commission on the Status of African-Americans**

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We're on the web!  
[www.iowadatacenter.org](http://www.iowadatacenter.org)

Data Source (unless otherwise noted) :  
 U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000  
 Photos by U.S. Census Bureau's  
 Public Information Office

**VITAL EVENTS**

**19.5**  
 The African American birth rate per 1,000 population in 2003. The birth rate per 1,000 for the state was 13.0.

**746.7**  
 The African American rate of out-of-wedlock

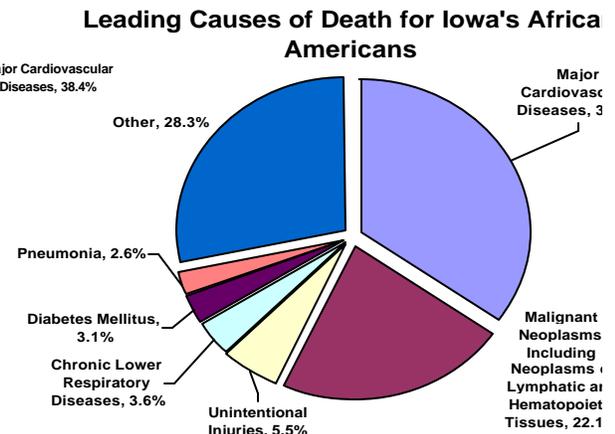
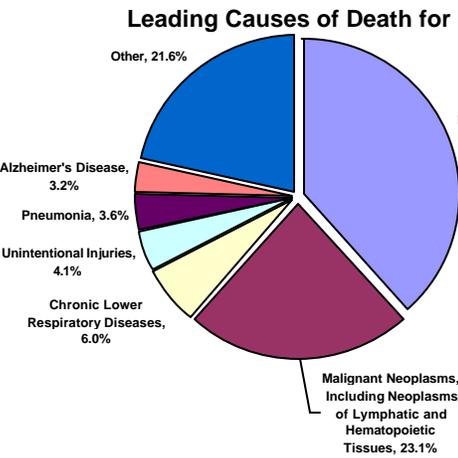
births per 1,000 live births in 2003. The rate of out-of-wedlock births per 1,000 live births for the state was 304.2.

**223.3**  
 The African American rate of births for mothers under age 20 per 1,000 live births in

2003. The rate for the state was 89.6.

**6.3**  
 The African American death rate per 1,000 population in 2003. The death rate per 1,000 for the state was 6.3.

Data provided by the Iowa Department of Public Health publication, "Vital Statistics of Iowa 2003"



**EDUCATION**

**23,538**  
 The number African Americans enrolled in the state's elementary and high schools during the 2004-2005 school year. African Americans represent 4.6% of Iowa's school enrollment (517,050).

**60.2%**  
 Percent increase in African American enrollment between the 1991-1992 school year and 2004-2005.

Source: Iowa Department of Education

**77.3%**  
 The percentage of Iowa African Americans age 25 and over, who had at least a high school education in 2000. The percentage for Iowa was 86%.

**14.7%**  
 The percentage of Iowa African Americans age 25 and over, with a bachelor's degree or higher in 2000. The percentage for Iowa was 21.2%.

**5.1%**  
 Percentage of Iowa African Americans 25 years and older with an advanced degree in 2000. (e.g., master's, professional, doctorate.) The percentage of Iowans with an advanced degree was 6.5%.

**25.3**  
 The median age of Iowa's African American population. The median age for the state of Iowa is 36.6.