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1976

**IOWA**

**SURVEY OF  
LICENSED BARBERS**

**1976**

**IOWA STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
Division of Records and Statistics**

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## I N T R O D U C T I O N

On April 21, 1976 a survey of Iowa licensed barbers was initiated. The response rate for the survey, which was completed on July 22, 1976, was very good, 90.8 percent. Results of the responses to the survey indicate that Iowa barbers are predominantly males, 95.2 percent.

Iowa barbers are concentrated according to age within four age groups ranging from 25 through 44 years of age. The largest proportion, however, is only 13.9 percent in the 30-34 age group.

Concerning the number of years licensed in Iowa, more than half of the barbers, 52.6 percent have been licensed for 11-30 years.

Other information obtained from the survey indicates:

- . About 4 of 10 Iowa barbers have attended a formal education program in barbering since becoming licensed.
- . Slightly less than one-third of the barbers feel there is need for barber technicians in the field.
- . Just over half of the barbers do hair styling.
- . Most barbers who are not shop owners, 6 of 10, are paid on a commission basis.
- . Less than half of the licensed barbers are employed full time. An additional one-third are not employed as barbers.

## BARBER SURVEY-IN GENERAL

### Age

Concerning the age groups of Iowa barbers the largest proportion, 13.9 percent, are aged 30 - 34. In addition, 13.2 percent are 35 - 39 years of age. Other age groups with relatively high percentages are 40 - 44 and 25 - 29 with 11.0 and 10.2 percent, respectively.

### Education

High school is the highest level of education completed for a large 75.0 percent majority of the barbers in Iowa. The second largest educational level, proportionately, is grade school - 13.9 percent. In contrast, the barbers who have completed college represent 8.9 percent of the total.

### Years Licensed

The largest duration of years licensed is 11 - 20. This constitutes the number of years licensed for 36.3 percent of the barbers. Second in proportion is the 21 - 30 duration at 16.3 percent.

Continued Education Since becoming licensed, 41.2 percent of the barbers have attended a formal continued education program in barbering.

Need for Barber Technicians Less than a third of the barbers, 30.7 percent, indicate that there is a need for barber technicians in the profession.

Hair Styling About half of the barbers do hair styling, 51.2 percent.



How Paid Most barbers who are not shop owners are paid on a commission basis - the percentage is 60.0. Subrental of a chair is the means of payment for 28.5 percent. And, only 11.5 percent of the non-owner barbers receive salaries.

Employment Status Only 45.7 percent of the barbers are employed in the profession full time while about one-fifth, 20.1 percent, are employed part time. As a result, about a third, 33.0 percent, are not working as barbers. Most of those who are not working in the profession are working in another occupation - 70.5 percent. In addition, 7.7 percent indicate that there is no opportunity for employment as a barber.

### BARBERS BY AGE BY YEARS LICENSED

To continue the analysis of the characteristics of Iowa barbers, in more detail - as expected, the age groups of barbers become progressively older as the durations of years licensed become larger. Within the one year or less duration, the largest proportion is 36.0 percent in the 20-24 age group. For 2-5 years licensed, barbers 20-24 years of age also constitute the largest proportion, 35.0 percent. However, the 25-29 age group is nearly as large at 34.4 percent. Further, 25-29 years of age is the largest group, 50.7 percent, among the 6-10 year category. Concerning the 11-20 duration of years licensed, the 35-39 age group contains the highest percentage, 29.7. Barbers 50-54 years of age constitute 27.1 percent within the 21-30 years licensed category - this is the highest percentage. In the last duration, 31 or more years, the largest proportion is 23.5 percent for the 70-74 age group. Moreover, using single years of age and single numbers of years licensed results in a very high correlation between the two variables.

### BARBERS BY YEARS LICENSED AND CONTINUED EDUCATION

The duration of years licensed with the highest percentage of barbers who continued their formal education since becoming licensed is 11-20 years at 36.3 percent. Second ranks 21-30 years with 17.5 percent of the barbers who have attended a formal education program in barbering subsequent to licensure.

### BARBERS BY AGE AND CONTINUED EDUCATION

Concerning the barbers who have continued their formal education after becoming licensed, the largest proportion are in the 30-34 age group, 16.1 percent. A relatively high percentage of the barbers with continued



formal education, 14.0 percent, are 35-39 years of age. In addition, 13.6 percent are aged 25-29.

#### BARBERS BY YEARS LICENSED AND HAIRSTYLING

The barbers who do hairstyling are concentrated according to years licensed within the 11-20 years licensed duration. This group contains 36.6 percent of the barbers who responded yes to the question, "Do you do hairstyling?" Other duration groups with relatively large proportions of barbers who do hairstyling are 6-10 years with 16.1 percent and 21-30 years at 16.0 percent.

#### BARBERS BY AGE BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Ages 30-34 comprise the largest proportion of the barbers who are employed full time with 14.9 percent. The percentage of full-time barbers is nearly as large, 14.5, within the 35-39 age group. Further, full-time barbers, aged 25-29 represent 11.6 percent of the total barbers who are employed full time. This is similar to the overall age distribution for barbers - the two largest age groups being 30-34 and 35-39.

In contrast, the part-time barbers are older. Among barbers who are employed part time, 15.7 percent are 65-69 years of age. This is the largest proportion. Moreover, 12.4 percent of the part-time barbers are aged 70-74.

As is evident concerning the full-time barbers, the 30-34 age group constitutes the largest proportion of those barbers who are not working. Similarly, 35-39 has a relatively high percentage, 14.7.

#### COMPARISONS BY SEX

A large majority of the barbers licensed in Iowa are males - 95.2 percent. As a result, with only 32 female barbers, percentage



comparisons by sex are difficult because breakdowns of the number of female barbers into categories result in very small numbers. Moreover, the characteristics of the male barbers are very similar to the total. Therefore, the characteristics of the female barbers in Iowa will be presented separately.

Age Female barbers are concentrated in the younger age groups. Nearly a third, 30.3 percent of the females are aged 20-24. In addition, about one-fifth, 21.2 percent are 25-29 years of age.

Education Typical of the female barbers is a high school education. Concerning females, 78.0 percent indicate that high school is the highest level of education completed. However, college graduates represent 12.9 percent of the female barbers.

Years Licensed More than half of the female barbers, 59.1 percent, have been licensed less than six years. The second largest proportion concerning years licensed is 15.9 percent in the 5-9 duration.

Continued Education Female barbers who have attended a formal education program in barbering since becoming licensed comprise 60.6 percent of the females.

Need For Barber Technicians Nearly half of the females, 47.0 percent, feel there is a need for barber technicians.

Hair Styling Concerning female barbers, a large 77.3 percent majority do hair styling.

How Paid Most female barbers who are not shop owners are paid on a commission basis. This is 70.6 percent. Nearly one-fifth or 19.1 percent are paid by subrenting a chair. And, about 1 of 10 female barbers receive salaries, 10.3 percent.



Employment Status More than half of the female barbers, 54.5 percent, are employed full time in the profession. Working on a part-time basis in the industry are 20.5 percent of the female barbers. However, 24.2 percent are not employed as barbers. Among these, 53.1 percent are working in another occupation. In addition, a considerable proportion, 21.9 percent, indicate that there are no employment opportunities in the barber industry.

#### FEMALE BARBERS BY AGE BY YEARS LICENSED

As a result of the young age distribution for female barbers, the numbers in the higher duration categories are very small. Nonetheless, the age groups become progressively older as the duration categories become larger. Within both, the less than 1 year and the 2-5 years licensed durations, the largest proportion of females are 20-24 years of age. The percentages are 40.5 and 53.7, respectively. Considering the 11-20 years duration, the highest percentage is 23.8 for the 50-54 age group.

#### FEMALE BARBERS BY YEARS LICENSED AND CONTINUED EDUCATION

Female barbers who have attended a formal continued education program since becoming licensed have been licensed for a short period of time. Nearly a third have been licensed for one year or less, 31.3 percent. Moreover, among the female barbers with continued formal education in barbering, 36.3 percent have been licensed from 2 through 5 years.

#### FEMALE BARBERS BY AGE BY CONTINUED EDUCATION

Since a large proportion of the female barbers with continued education have been licensed for a short time, a high percentage are within the younger age groups. The largest proportion of female barbers who have attended a formal continued education program in barbering subsequent to licensure, 36.3 percent, are aged 20-24. Another 21.3 percent are 25-29 years of age.



#### FEMALE BARBERS BY YEARS LICENSED AND HAIR STYLING

Concerning the female barbers who do hair styling, 36.3 percent have been licensed for one year or less. In addition, the 2-5 years category comprises 35.3 percent.

#### FEMALE BARBERS BY AGE BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Among the female barbers who are employed full time in the profession, 38.8 percent are 20-24 years of age. This is the largest proportion. The 25-29 age group also represents a relatively high 18.1 percent of the full-time females.

Considering part-time employment for females, the numbers within the age groups are very small. Nonetheless, 22.2 percent of the females working part time as barbers are 20-24 years of age. Moreover, 25.9 percent are aged 25-29.

Similarly, the largest age group among female barbers who are not working in the profession is 25-29 with 25.0 percent. Females aged 20-24 comprise 18.8 percent of the not working females. In addition, 15.6 percent are 40-44 years of age.



TABLE 1  
IOWA LICENSED BARBER SURVEY  
SUMMARY OF RESPONSES BY SEX  
1976

	2,997			
TOTAL LICENSED (IOWA)		TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE
TOTAL RESPONDERS (IOWA)		2,722	2,590	132
AGE GROUP				
TOTAL		2,722	2,590	132
UNDER 20		7	3	4
20-24		99	59	40
25-29		279	251	28
30-34		378	364	14
35-39		359	349	10
40-44		299	292	7
45-49		243	239	4
50-54		208	197	11
55-59		171	168	3
60-64		148	145	3
65-69		149	148	1
70-74		152	151	1
75-79		66	64	2
80-84		12	12	-
85 AND OVER		7	7	-
NOT STATED		145	141	4
EDUCATION LEVEL				
TOTAL		2,722	2,590	132
NONE		5	5	-
GRADE SCHOOL		378	369	9
HIGH SCHOOL		2,042	1,939	103
COLLEGE		242	225	17
NOT STATED		55	52	3
NUMBER OF YEARS LICENSED				
TOTAL		2,722	2,590	132
ONE OR LESS		75	38	37
2-5		163	122	41
6-10		359	343	16
11-20		987	966	21
21-30		446	441	5
31 AND OVER		524	519	5
NOT STATED		168	161	7
CONTINUED EDUCATION				
TOTAL		2,722	2,590	132
YES		1,121	1,041	80
NO		1,518	1,473	45
NOT STATED		83	76	7

TABLE 1 cont'd

	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE
NEED FOR BARBER TECHNICIAN			
TOTAL	2,722	2,590	132
YES	837	775	62
NO	1,472	1,426	46
NOT STATED	413	389	24
HAIR STYLING			
TOTAL	2,722	2,590	132
YES	1,394	1,292	102
NO	1,194	1,171	23
NOT STATED	134	127	7
NON OWNER - HOW PAID			
TOTAL	537	469	68
SALARY	62	55	7
COMMISSION	322	274	48
SUBRENTAL	153	140	13
EMPLOYMENT STATUS			
TOTAL	2,722	2,590	132
FULL TIME	1,245	1,173	72
PART TIME	548	521	27
NOT WORKING	897	865	32
RETIRED	116	114	2
POOR HEALTH	43	42	1
NO OPPORTUNITY	69	62	7
ANOTHER OCCUPATION	633	616	17
NOT STATED	36	31	5
NOT STATED	32	31	1



TABLE 2  
 BARBERS BY AGE GROUP, BY YEARS LICENSED, BY SEX

YEARS LICENSED

AGE GROUP	TOTAL	YEARS LICENSED											
		ONE OR LESS			2-5			6-10			11-20		
		TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE
TOTAL.....	2,722	75	38	37	163	122	41	359	343	16	987	966	21
UNDER 20.....	7	5	2	3	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-24.....	99	27	12	15	57	35	22	9	9	-	-	-	-
25-29.....	279	20	11	9	56	48	8	182	173	9	10	9	1
30-34.....	378	5	3	2	24	19	5	95	91	4	243	241	2
35-39.....	359	5	1	4	7	6	1	32	31	1	293	289	4
40-44.....	299	7	7	-	5	4	1	14	14	-	200	196	4
45-49.....	243	2	1	1	1	1	-	4	4	-	110	107	3
50-54.....	208	2	-	2	4	2	2	3	3	-	51	46	5
55-59.....	171	-	-	-	1	1	-	5	4	1	21	20	1
60-64.....	148	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	14	13	1
65-69.....	149	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	6	-
70-74.....	152	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
75-79.....	66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
80-84.....	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
85+.....	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NOT STATED.....	145	2	1	1	5	4	1	13	12	1	37	37	-

TABLE 2 cont'd  
 BARBERS BY AGE GROUP, BY YEARS LICENSED, BY SEX

AGE GROUP	YEARS LICENSED								
	21-30			31+			NOT STATED		
	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE
TOTAL.....	446	441	5	524	519	5	168	161	7
UNDER 20.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-24.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	2	3
25-29.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	10	1
30-34.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	10	1
35-39.....	9	9	-	-	-	-	13	13	-
40-44.....	64	63	1	-	-	-	9	8	1
45-49.....	115	115	-	1	1	-	10	10	-
50-54.....	121	119	2	23	23	-	4	4	-
55-59.....	73	72	1	64	64	-	7	7	-
60-64.....	28	28	-	97	95	2	7	7	-
65-69.....	10	10	-	120	119	1	13	13	-
70-74.....	2	2	-	123	122	1	25	25	-
75-79.....	1	1	-	45	44	1	19	18	1
80-84.....	-	-	-	10	10	-	2	2	-
85+.....	-	-	-	5	5	-	2	2	-
NOT STATED.....	23	22	1	36	36	-	30	30	-



TABLE 3  
 BARBERS BY YEARS LICENSED, BY CONTINUED EDUCATION, BY SEX

YEARS LICENSED	TOTAL	CONTINUED EDUCATION								
		YES			NO			NOT STATED		
		TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE
TOTAL.....	2,722	1,121	1,041	80	1,518	1,473	45	83	76	7
ONE OR LESS.....	75	44	19	25	30	19	11	1	-	1
2-5.....	163	94	65	29	66	54	12	3	3	-
6-10.....	359	177	170	7	177	170	7	5	3	2
11-20.....	987	407	396	11	567	559	8	13	11	2
21-30.....	446	196	194	2	245	242	3	5	5	-
30+.....	568	171	169	2	369	367	2	28	27	1
NOT STATED.....	168	50	46	4	90	88	2	28	27	1

TABLE 4  
 BARBERS BY AGE GROUP, BY CONTINUED EDUCATION, BY SEX

AGE GROUP	TOTAL	CONTINUED EDUCATION								
		YES			NO			NOT STATED		
		TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE
TOTAL.....	2,722	1,121	1,041	80	1,518	1,473	45	83	76	7
UNDER 20.....	7	5	2	3	2	1	1	-	-	-
20-24.....	99	67	38	29	31	20	11	1	1	-
25-29.....	279	152	135	17	125	115	10	2	1	1
30-34.....	378	180	171	9	190	187	3	8	6	2
35-39.....	359	157	151	6	197	193	4	5	5	-
40-44.....	299	115	113	2	178	174	4	6	5	1
45-49.....	243	97	95	2	141	139	2	5	5	-
50-54.....	208	90	83	7	114	111	3	4	3	1
55-59.....	171	67	67	-	100	97	3	4	4	-
60-64.....	148	43	41	2	102	101	1	3	3	-
65-69.....	149	38	38	-	101	101	-	100	9	1
70-74.....	152	33	33	-	111	110	1	8	8	-
75-79.....	66	15	15	-	40	39	1	11	10	1
80-84.....	12	5	5	-	4	4	-	3	3	-
85+.....	7	-	-	-	6	6	-	1	1	-
NOT STATED.....	145	57	54	3	76	75	1	12	12	-



TABLE 5  
 BARBERS BY AGE GROUP, BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS, BY SEX

AGE GROUP	TOTAL	EMPLOYMENT STATUS								
		FULL TIME			PART TIME			NOT WORKING		
		TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE
TOTAL.....	2,722	1,245	1,173	72	548	521	27	897	865	32
UNDER 20.....	7	7	3	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-24.....	99	68	40	28	11	5	6	20	14	6
25-29.....	279	145	132	13	42	35	7	92	84	8
30-34.....	378	185	178	7	44	40	4	146	143	3
35-39.....	359	180	174	6	47	46	1	132	129	3
40-44.....	299	129	128	1	49	48	1	119	114	5
45-49.....	243	130	128	2	39	38	1	71	70	1
50-54.....	208	118	113	5	31	28	3	58	56	2
55-59.....	171	83	82	1	24	23	1	59	58	1
60-64.....	148	68	67	1	37	36	1	40	39	1
65-69.....	149	24	24	-	86	86	-	36	35	1
70-74.....	152	35	34	1	68	68	-	44	44	-
75-79.....	66	15	15	-	30	29	1	18	17	1
80-84.....	12	4	4	-	5	5	-	3	3	-
85+.....	7	3	3	-	2	2	-	2	2	-
NOT STATED.....	145	51	48	3	33	32	1	57	57	-

TABLE 5 cont'd  
 BARBERS BY AGE GROUP, BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS, BY SEX

AGE GROUP	EMPLOYMENT STATUS		
	NOT STATED		
	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE
TOTAL.....	32	31	1
UNDER 20.....	-	-	-
20-24.....	-	-	-
25-29.....	-	-	-
30-34.....	3	3	-
35-39.....	-	-	-
40-44.....	2	2	-
45-49.....	3	3	-
50-54.....	1	-	1
55-59.....	5	5	-
60-64.....	3	3	-
65-69.....	3	3	-
70-74.....	5	5	-
75-79.....	3	3	-
80-84.....	-	-	-
85+.....	-	-	-
NOT STATED.....	4	4	-

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TABLE 6  
 BARBERS BY YEARS LICENSED, BY HAIRSTYLING, BY SEX

YEARS LICENSED	TOTAL	HAIRSTYLING								
		YES			NO			NOT STATED		
		TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE
TOTAL.....	2,722	1,394	1,292	102	1,194	1,171	23	134	127	7
ONE OR LESS.....	75	70	33	37	5	5	-	-	-	-
2-5.....	163	129	93	36	31	27	4	3	2	1
6-10.....	359	225	216	9	120	114	6	14	13	1
11-20.....	987	510	499	11	442	434	8	35	33	2
21-30.....	446	223	221	2	203	200	3	20	20	-
31+.....	524	177	174	3	313	312	1	34	33	1
NOT STATED.....	168	60	56	4	80	79	1	28	26	2

THE IOWA BARBER BOARD OF EXAMINERS IS TAKING A SURVEY OF THE IOWA BARBERS. PLEASE COMPLETE THE ITEMS BELOW.

1. AGE. -- 30
2. SEX.  MALE  FEMALE
3. HIGHEST LEVEL OF FORMAL EDUCATION COMPLETED.  NONE  GRADE SCHOOL  
 HIGH SCHOOL  COLLEGE
4. LICENSED IN IOWA AS BARBER. 22 NUMBER OF YEARS
5. ATTENDED A FORMAL CONTINUED EDUCATION PROGRAM IN BARBERING SINCE LICENSED.  YES  NO
6. DO YOU SEE NEED FOR BARBER TECHNICIAN IN OUR PROFESSION.  YES  NO
7. DO YOU DO HAIR STYLING.  YES  NO
8. EMPLOYMENT STATUS IN BARBER SHOP.  FULL TIME  PART TIME  
 NOT WORKING
9. EMPLOYED IN BARBER INDUSTRY, NOT A SHOP OWNER. HOW ARE YOU PAID.  SALARY  COMMISSION  
 SUBRENTAL OF CHAIR
10. IF NOT EMPLOYED IN BARBER INDUSTRY CHECK BEST REASON WHY NOT.  RETIRED  POOR HEALTH  
 NO EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES  
 ANOTHER OCCUPATION

S A M P L E



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