



IOWA

In Brief

"The Democratic Party controlled Iowa politics when the state entered the Union in 1846. During the 1850's, many Iowa Democrats became dissatisfied with their party for not opposing slavery. They joined with members of the Whig Party to help form the Republican Party. A Republican became governor of Iowa in 1858. Since then, the Republican candidate has defeated the Democratic candidate in most of Iowa's gubernatorial elections.

Most of Iowa's Republican strength lies in rural areas, while most Democratic strength is in the cities. Members of both parties seek as much representation as possible from areas where their party is strong. In 1964 and 1965, the state legislative districts were temporarily reapportioned (redivided). The reapportionment gave the cities greater representation, which resulted in more Democrats in the legislature. Beginning with the 1970 census, the state has been reapportioned after each U.S. census."

Resource: World Book 2008

Capital: Des Moines

Area: 56,272 sq mi

Population: 2,982,085

Resource: World Almanac 2008

Iowa, which held its caucus on Jan. 3, has a 2007 population of about 3 million, including a higher percentage of the non-Hispanic white-alone population and a lower percentage of Hispanics and blacks than the nation as a whole, according to U.S. Census Bureau statistics. About 71 percent of Iowa's voting-age citizens cast a ballot in the 2004 general election. The national rate was 64 percent.

More information at: <http://www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/voting.html>

Selected Characteristics	Iowa	U.S.
Median age	37.8	36.4
Women	50.6%	50.7%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	91.0%	66.4%
Black alone	2.5%	12.8%
Hispanic or Latino	3.8%	14.8%
Median household income	\$44,491	\$48,451
Foreign born	3.8%	12.5%
Persons below poverty	11.0%	13.3%
Bachelor's degree or higher (age 25+)	24.0%	27.0%
Median home value	\$112,600	\$185,200

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Total Population Estimates (2007), State Population Estimates by Characteristics (2006), American Community Survey (2006).

More Resources

Government Information
<p>The Official Web site for the State Iowa http://www.iowa.gov/state/main/index.html</p> <p>Governor of Iowa http://www.governor.iowa.gov/</p> <p>Iowa - Elected Officials in U.S. Senate http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm?State=IA</p> <p>Iowa - Elected Officials in U.S. House of Representatives http://www.house.gov/house/MemberWWW_by_State.shtml#de</p>
Elections 2008
<p>Politics 1: Iowa Directory http://www.politicsone.com/ia.htm</p> <p>The Green Papers: Iowa 2008 General Elections General http://www.thegreenpapers.com/G08/IA.phtml</p> <p>Secretary of State - Voters/Elections http://www.sos.state.ia.us/elections/</p>
Statistics
<p>Iowa - Quick Facts from the US Census Bureau http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/19000.html</p>
Media
<p>Local newspapers http://www.newslink.org/ianews.html</p> <p>Local radio stations http://www.newslink.org/iaradi.html</p>
General Information
<p>Infoplease Iowa http://www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0108213.html</p> <p>50states.com - Iowa http://www.50states.com/iowa.htm</p>

Please find more information at
<http://usa.usembassy.de/classroom/electionproject2008/index>