



# Des Moines, Iowa.

Current market data.

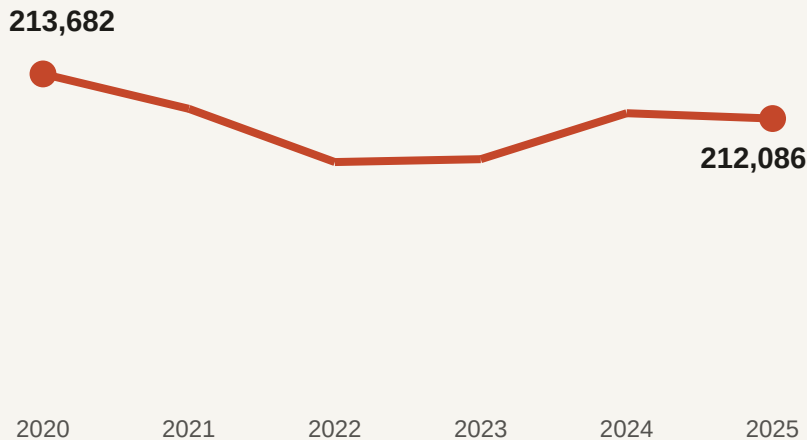
11 cards. Every number sourced and dated. Data as of Oct 30, 2026.

POPULATION

Down 0.7% since 2020.

212,086

people, the largest of Iowa's cities and towns.



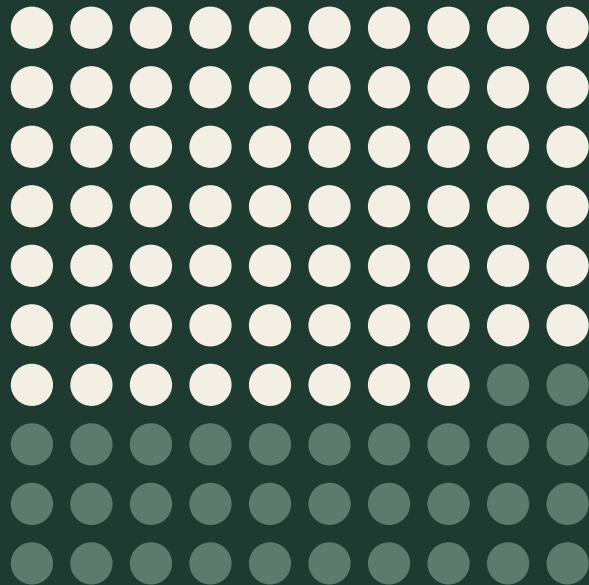
THE WORKDAY

7 in 10 jobs here go to  
people who live somewhere  
else.

68.4%

of 131,821 jobs located in Des Moines are filled by  
in-commuters.

Source: Census LEHD LODES, 2023



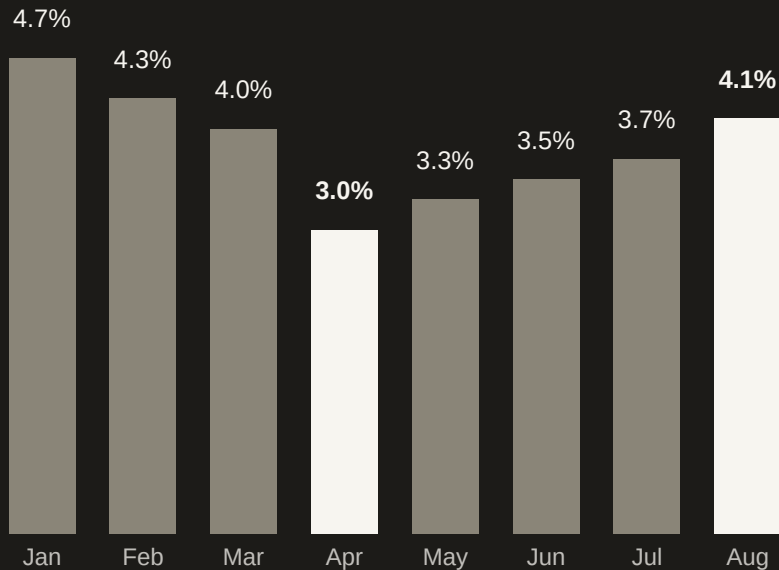
Each dot is 1% of jobs. Filled: held by in-commuters.

## UNEMPLOYMENT, 2026

The low came in April:  
3.0%.

4.1%

in August 2026, the latest month released. A year earlier it was 4.7%.

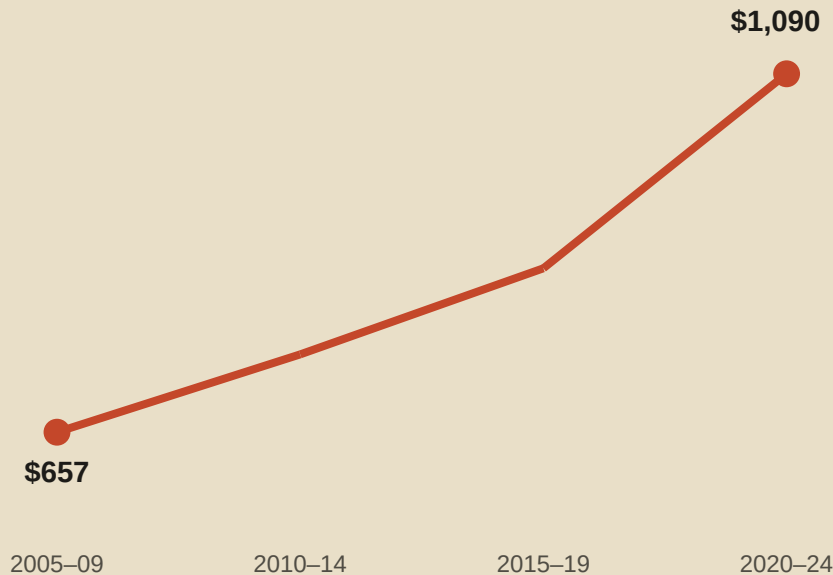


RENT

Median rent is up 66%  
since the 2005–2009  
survey, before inflation.

**\$1,090**

a month. Iowa's median is \$972.





## THE SEAM

# Cross one tract line and median rent doubles.

A \$925 gap between neighbors, the sharpest rent edge between adjacent tracts in Polk County.

TRACT 102.07

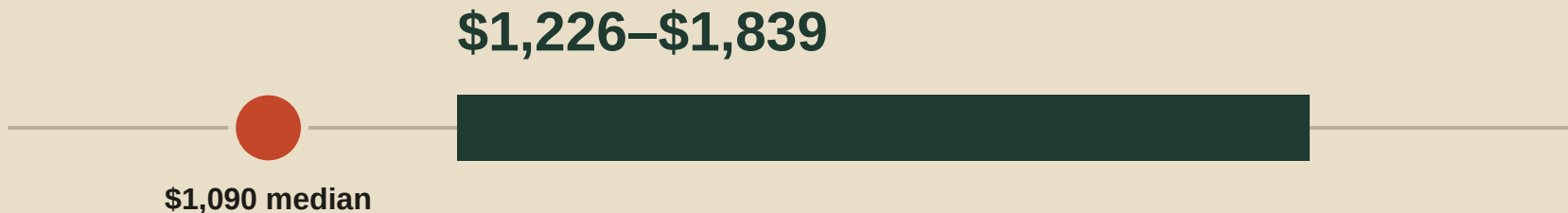
**\$736**

TRACT 102.15

**\$1,661**

ROOM TO BUILD

# Local wages can carry more rent than the median charged today.



is the monthly rent range local workforce wages support.

## BUILDING

# Most of the housing here is older than 2000.

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**8,455**

homes permitted in ten years,  
2016–2025

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**72%**

of those were in multifamily  
buildings

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**83%**

of all homes were built before 2000

## UNITS NEEDED

**Closing the gap would add 0.4–1.4% to the 97,604 homes here.**

**348–1,318**

is the estimated number of missing housing units, from the lowest to the highest of three estimates.



## HOME VALUE

A median home costs 6%  
less than Iowa's.

**\$194,700**

median home value in Des Moines.

Des Moines



Iowa



U.S.



THAT WAS DES MOINES'S 2026

# Every number came from a public source, with its date.

New Census data usually lands in December. The next Edition follows it.

See this Edition at [almanacdata.ai/e/ia/des-moines/](https://almanacdata.ai/e/ia/des-moines/)

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