Emerson, Iowa.

Current market data.

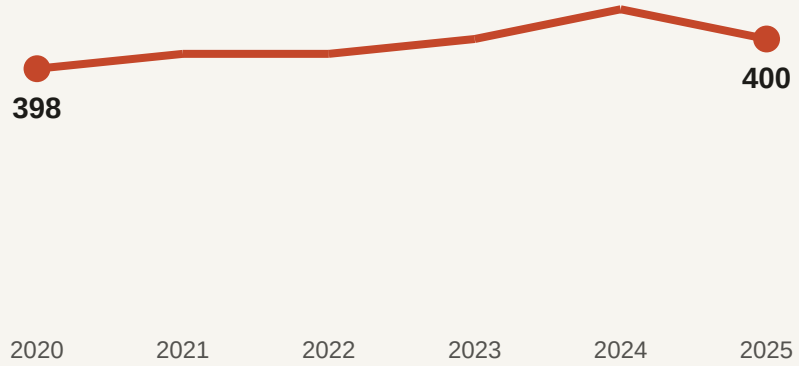
10 cards. Every number sourced and dated. Data as of Oct 30, 2026.

POPULATION

Growing. Up 0.5% since 2020.

400

people, the 484th-largest of Iowa's cities and towns.



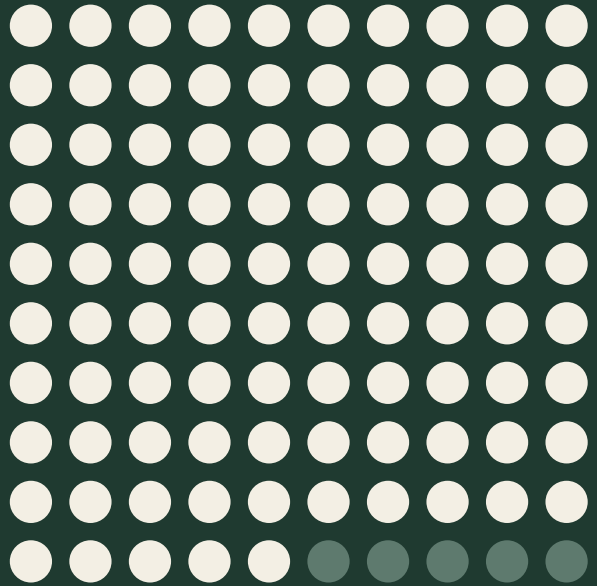
Source: Census Population Estimates, 2025

THE WORKDAY

Nearly every job here goes to someone who lives somewhere else.

95.5%

of 44 jobs located in Emerson are filled by in-commuters.



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

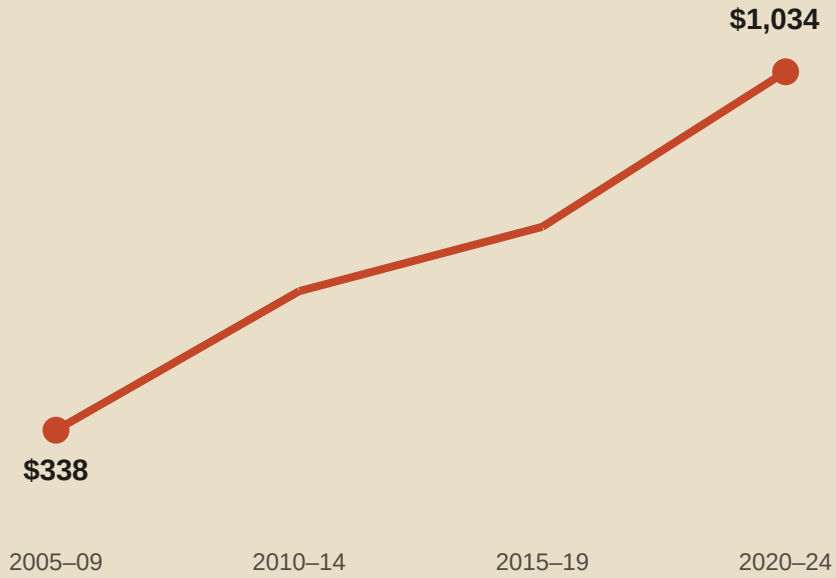
Source: Census LEHD LODES, 2023

RENT

Median rent is up 206% since the 2005–2009 survey, before inflation.

$1,034

a month. Iowa's median is $972.

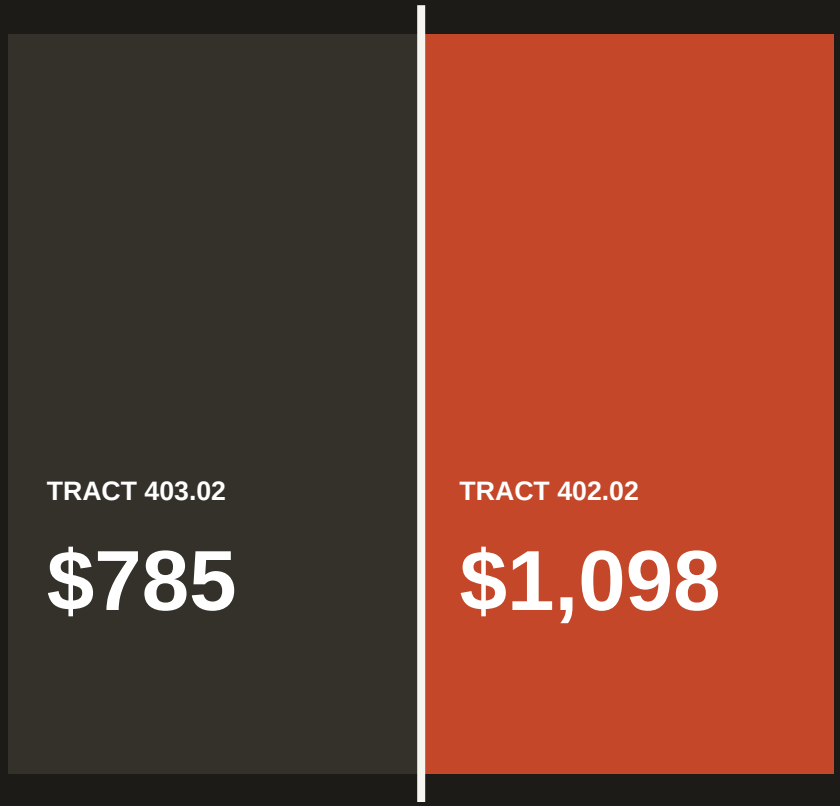


Source: Census ACS 5-year, 2020-2024

THE SEAM

Cross one tract line and median rent jumps $313.

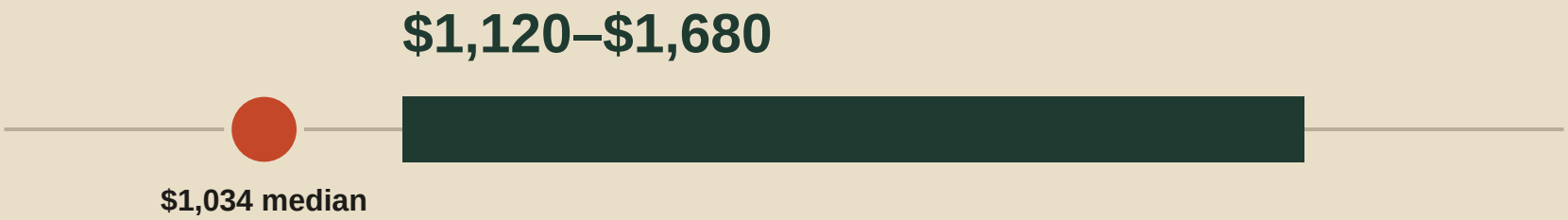
A $313 gap between neighbors, the sharpest rent edge between adjacent tracts in Mills County.



Source: Census ACS 5-year, 2020-2024

ROOM TO BUILD

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



is the monthly rent range local workforce wages support.

Source: Computed by the Almanac, 2023; Census ACS 5-year, 2020-2024

BUILDING

Most of the housing here is older than 2000.

1

homes permitted in ten years, 2016–2025

0%

of those were in multifamily buildings

95%

of all homes were built before 2000

Source: Census Building Permits Survey, 2016-2025; Census ACS 5-year, 2020-2024

UNITS NEEDED

None of three estimates finds a housing shortfall here.

0

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

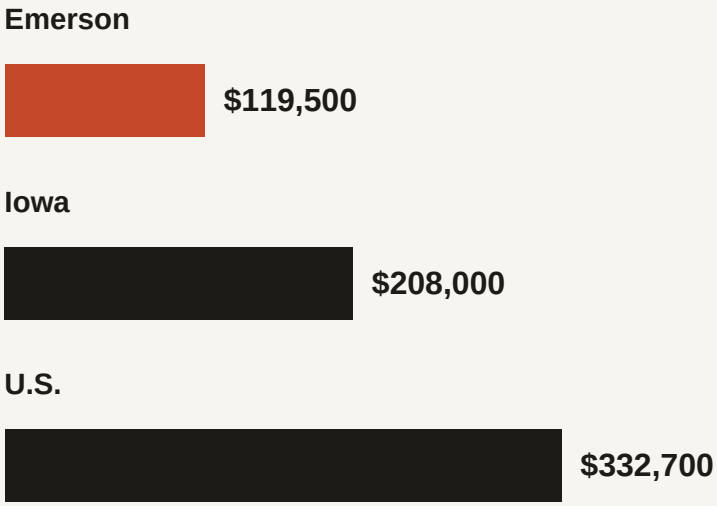
Source: Computed by the Almanac, 2023

HOME VALUE

A median home costs 43% less than Iowa's.

$119,500

median home value in Emerson.



Source: Census ACS 5-year, 2020-2024

THAT WAS EMERSON'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/emerson/**