



West Des Moines, Iowa.

Current market data.

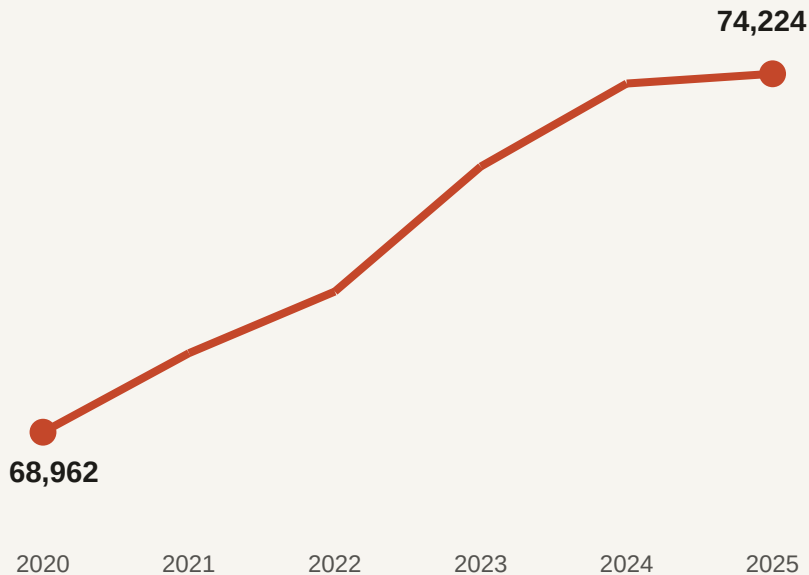
11 cards. Every number sourced and dated. Data as of Oct 30, 2026.

POPULATION

Growing. Up 7.6% since 2020.

74,224

people, the 7th-largest of Iowa's cities and towns.

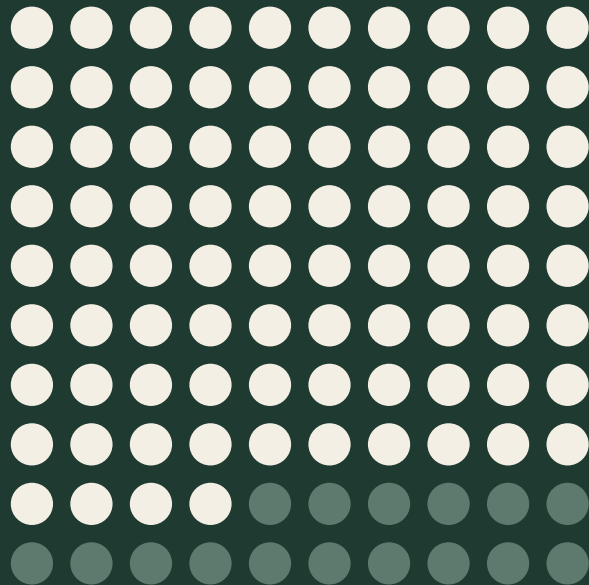


THE WORKDAY

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

84.4%

of 71,930 jobs located in West Des Moines are filled by in-commuters.



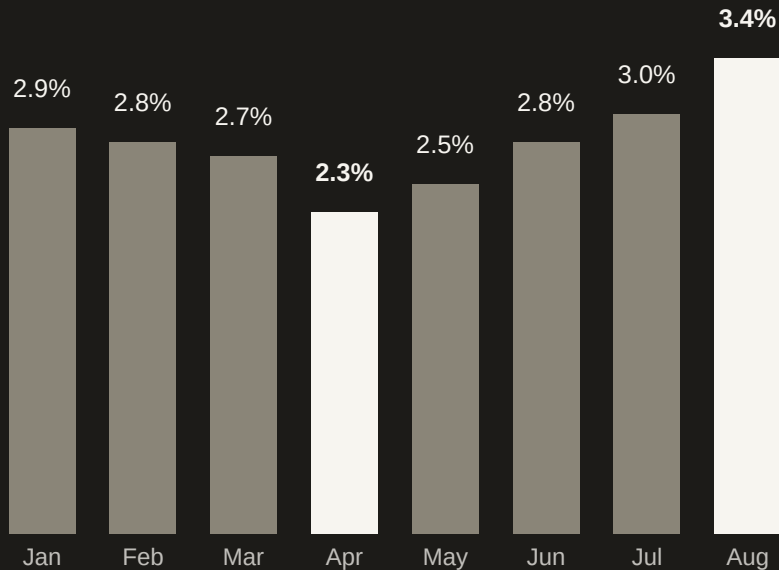
Each dot is 1% of jobs. Filled: held by in-commuters.

UNEMPLOYMENT, 2026

The low came in April:
2.3%.

3.4%

in August 2026, the latest month released. A year earlier it was 3.4%.

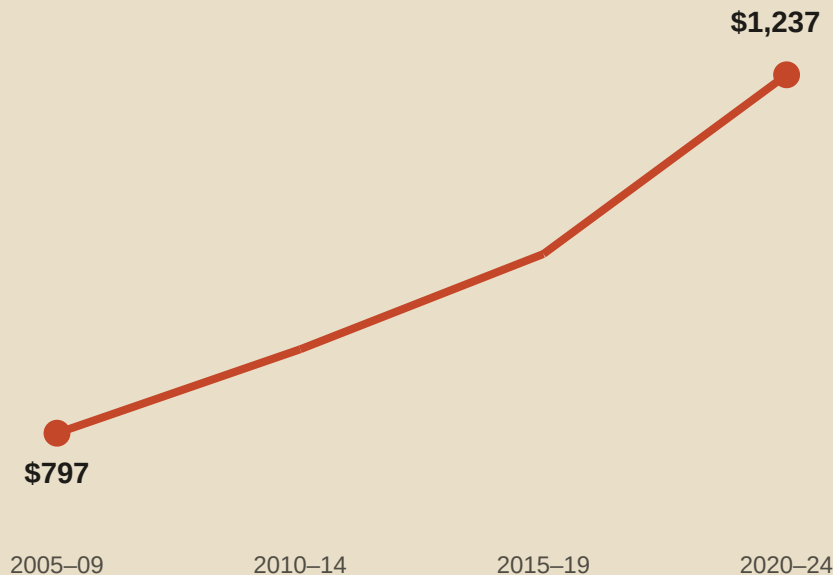


RENT

Median rent is up 55%
since the 2005–2009
survey, before inflation.

\$1,237

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

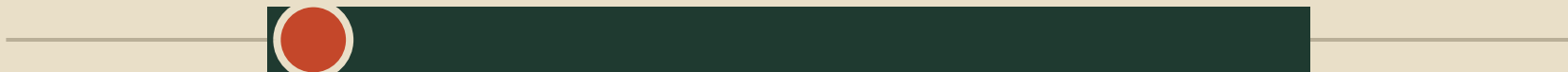
TRACT 102.15

\$1,661

ROOM TO BUILD

The median rent sits inside what local wages can carry.

\$1,210–\$1,815



\$1,237 median

is the monthly rent range local workforce wages support.

BUILDING

61% of the housing here was built before 2000.

5,955

homes permitted in ten years,
2016–2025

45%

of those were in multifamily
buildings

61%

of all homes were built before 2000

UNITS NEEDED

Closing the gap would add 0.4–2.1% to the 34,006 homes here.

131–719

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



HOME VALUE

**A median home costs 49%
more than Iowa's.**

\$309,000

median home value in West Des Moines.

West Des Moines



Iowa



U.S.



THAT WAS WEST 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/west-des-moines/

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