

## IOWA POPULATION REPORTS

April 2010

Liesl Eathington  
Department of Economics  
Iowa State University

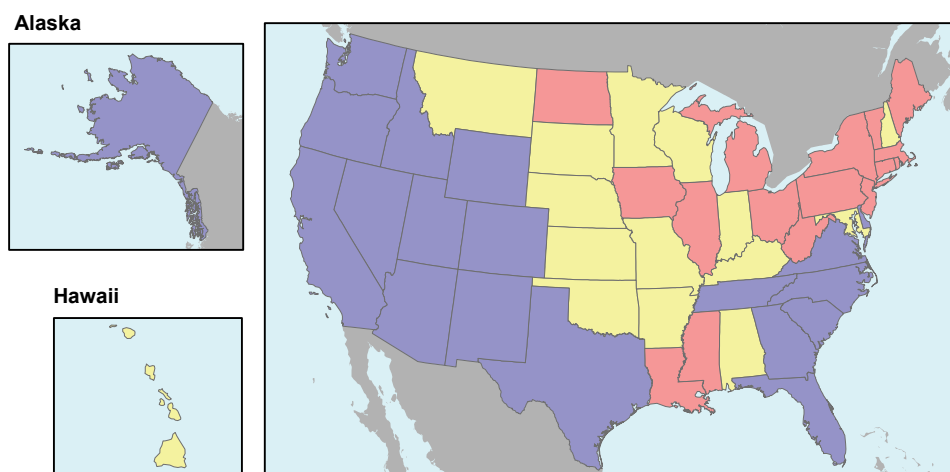
# Components of 2000-2009 Population Change by State

## Iowa's Rate of Population Growth Ranks 43rd Among All States

Iowa had an estimated 3,007,856 residents on July 1, 2009. Adding more than 81,000 new residents since April 1, 2000, Iowa has maintained its ranking as the 30th most populous state. Still, Iowa's overall growth rate of 2.8 percent for the past decade ranked 43rd among the states and was less than one third of the nation's average rate of growth. Figure 1 shows 2000-2009 population growth rates by state.

This report evaluates Iowa's success in producing, retaining, and attracting new residents during the decade of the 2000s. Using annual population estimates data from the U.S. Census Bureau, the report explores the primary components of population growth: natural change and net migration. The report highlights Iowa's performance on key growth measures in absolute terms and in comparison with other states.

Figure 1



### Rates of Total Population Change, 2000-2009

**Total percentage change**

- Lower than half of U.S. average
- 1/2 to equal U.S. average
- Higher than U.S. average

# Explanation of Terms

## Components of Population Change

Two different phenomena influence a state's total population size over time: natural change and net migration. Natural change is the difference between the number of births and deaths in a given time period. Net migration is the difference between the number of people moving into and out of the state. The combined effects of all births, deaths, and migration flows lead to population growth or decline in the state.

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates each of the key components of population change using administrative records, including registered births and deaths, Federal income tax returns, Medicare enrollees, and military movement. The Census Bureau supplements its estimates using information from the American Community Survey (ACS), the Decennial Census, and other data sources.

## Natural Change

Natural population change is the difference between the number of births and deaths that occur during a given time period. When the number of births exceeds the number of deaths, the state experiences natural population growth. If the number of deaths exceeds the number of births, the state is said to be in natural decline.

**Births.** The U.S. Census Bureau estimates the total number of live births occurring to residents of an area using reports from its Federal-State Cooperative Program for Population Estimates (FSCPE) and the National Center for Health Statistics.

**Deaths.** The total number of deaths occurring in an area are estimated using reports from the FSCPE and the National Center for Health Statistics.

## Net Migration

Net migration is the difference between the number of people moving into and out of a region during the reference time period. Net migration has two components: net international migration and net domestic migration.

**Net international migration.** International migration flows describe the movement of individuals across the borders of the United States. It should be noted that international migration is measured regardless of a person's citizenship status and, to the extent possible, includes undocumented migrants. Also captured within international migration flows are the movements of members of the Armed Forces.

International in-migrants are current state residents who lived outside the United States in the year prior to the reference period. For example, an individual who was living in Canada in 1999 and moved directly to Iowa in 2003 would be counted as an international in-migrant to Iowa for the 2000-2009 period.

International out-migrants are former U.S. residents who moved to a new residence outside the United States during the reference period.

**Net domestic migration.** Domestic migration flows describe the movement of individuals from one U.S. state to another during a particular time period of interest.

Regardless of their citizenship status or country of origin, a person is included as a domestic migrant if they were residing in the United States at the beginning of the reference period and moved from one state to another during the period of interest. For example, a person who was born in Mexico, moved to the state of Texas in 1999, and then moved to Iowa in 2005 would be counted as a domestic in-migrant to Iowa for the 2000-2008 time period.

## Residual

The residual represents change in the population that cannot be attributed to any specific demographic component of population change.

# Composition of Change by State, 2000-2009

State	Population on April 1, 2000	Natural Change	Net Migration	Residual	Total Change	Population on July 1, 2009	Overall % Change	Rank
United States	281,424,602	15,875,579	8,944,170	762,199	25,581,948	307,006,550	9.1%	
Alabama	4,447,382	138,519	136,452	-13,645	261,326	4,708,708	5.9%	30
Alaska	626,931	68,393	-724	3,873	71,542	698,473	11.4%	14
Arizona	5,130,607	464,238	986,764	14,169	1,465,171	6,595,778	28.6%	2
Arkansas	2,673,386	102,811	112,923	330	216,064	2,889,450	8.1%	20
California	33,871,648	2,878,482	306,925	-95,391	3,090,016	36,961,664	9.1%	19
Colorado	4,302,015	368,916	357,683	-3,866	722,733	5,024,748	16.8%	7
Connecticut	3,405,607	116,905	16,608	-20,832	112,681	3,518,288	3.3%	41
Delaware	783,557	40,095	66,047	-4,577	101,565	885,122	13.0%	12
District of Columbia	572,055	23,075	-17,427	21,954	27,602	599,657	4.8%	35
Florida	15,982,839	479,586	2,034,234	41,310	2,555,130	18,537,969	16.0%	9
Georgia	8,186,781	684,445	849,133	108,852	1,642,430	9,829,211	20.1%	4
Hawaii	1,211,538	85,390	5,843	-7,593	83,640	1,295,178	6.9%	27
Idaho	1,293,955	116,292	134,462	1,092	251,846	1,545,801	19.5%	5
Illinois	12,419,658	721,212	-228,888	-1,573	490,751	12,910,409	4.0%	36
Indiana	6,080,520	298,077	71,633	-27,117	342,593	6,423,113	5.6%	31
<b>Iowa</b>	<b>2,926,380</b>	<b>106,396</b>	<b>-15,876</b>	<b>-9,044</b>	<b>81,476</b>	<b>3,007,856</b>	<b>2.8%</b>	<b>43</b>
Kansas	2,688,811	144,835	144,835	2,675	129,936	2,818,747	4.8%	34
Kentucky	4,042,288	148,117	126,831	-3,123	271,825	4,314,113	6.7%	29
Louisiana	4,468,972	213,199	-285,765	95,670	23,104	4,492,076	0.5%	49
Maine	1,274,915	12,149	38,804	-7,567	43,386	1,318,301	3.4%	40
Maryland	5,296,544	293,234	95,290	14,410	402,934	5,699,478	7.6%	23
Massachusetts	6,349,119	220,701	-31,623	55,390	244,468	6,593,587	3.9%	37
Michigan	9,938,492	393,753	-372,082	9,564	31,235	9,969,727	0.3%	51
Minnesota	4,919,492	305,830	62,426	-21,534	346,722	5,266,214	7.0%	25
Mississippi	2,844,666	139,816	-18,973	-13,513	107,330	2,951,996	3.8%	38
Missouri	5,596,684	218,926	105,461	66,509	390,896	5,987,580	7.0%	26
Montana	902,190	31,184	42,980	-1,365	72,799	974,989	8.1%	21
Nebraska	1,711,265	102,206	-9,156	-7,696	85,354	1,796,619	5.0%	33
Nevada	1,998,260	168,080	485,443	-8,698	644,825	2,643,085	32.3%	1
New Hampshire	1,235,791	42,574	53,460	-7,250	88,784	1,324,575	7.2%	24
New Jersey	8,414,378	374,414	-60,000	-21,053	293,361	8,707,739	3.5%	39
New Mexico	1,819,041	129,591	70,558	-9,519	190,630	2,009,671	10.5%	17
New York	18,976,811	905,882	-846,993	505,753	564,642	19,541,453	3.0%	42
North Carolina	8,046,406	457,927	889,589	-13,038	1,334,478	9,380,884	16.6%	8
North Dakota	642,195	23,060	-15,217	-3,194	4,649	646,844	0.7%	47
Ohio	11,353,150	389,121	-247,751	48,125	189,495	11,542,645	1.7%	46
Oklahoma	3,450,638	156,467	92,977	-13,032	236,412	3,687,050	6.9%	28
Oregon	3,421,437	149,600	274,031	-19,411	404,220	3,825,657	11.8%	13
Pennsylvania	12,281,071	166,796	136,359	20,541	323,696	12,604,767	2.6%	44
Rhode Island	1,048,315	25,773	-14,632	-6,247	4,894	1,053,209	0.5%	50
South Carolina	4,011,832	181,566	376,441	-8,597	549,410	4,561,242	13.7%	10
South Dakota	754,835	40,893	13,367	3,288	57,548	812,383	7.6%	22
Tennessee	5,689,276	229,035	356,078	21,865	606,978	6,296,254	10.7%	16
Texas	20,851,818	2,124,124	1,781,785	24,575	3,930,484	24,782,302	18.8%	6
Utah	2,233,204	355,257	118,543	77,568	551,368	2,784,572	24.7%	3
Vermont	608,821	12,620	3,877	-3,558	12,939	621,760	2.1%	45
Virginia	7,079,048	425,738	375,639	2,165	803,542	7,882,590	11.4%	15
Washington	5,894,143	348,295	440,988	-19,231	770,052	6,664,195	13.1%	11
West Virginia	1,808,344	-382	21,653	-9,838	11,433	1,819,777	0.6%	48
Wisconsin	5,363,708	225,010	59,904	6,152	291,066	5,654,774	5.4%	32
Wyoming	493,783	27,356	25,660	-2,529	50,487	544,270	10.2%	18

# 2000-2009 Natural Change

Natural population growth explained 62 percent of the total increase in the U.S. population between 2000 and 2009. On average, the nation's population grew by 6/10ths of one percent per year due to natural change.

Iowa gained 106,400 new residents from natural population change between 2000 and 2009. Iowa's rate of natural growth has averaged less than 4/10ths of one percent annually since 2000, ranking 38th among the states.

Figure 2 illustrates the average annual rate of natural population change for all states from 2000 to 2009. States with the highest rates of natural population growth include Utah, Texas, and Alaska. Utah's rate of natural change averaged nearly 1.7 percent per year.

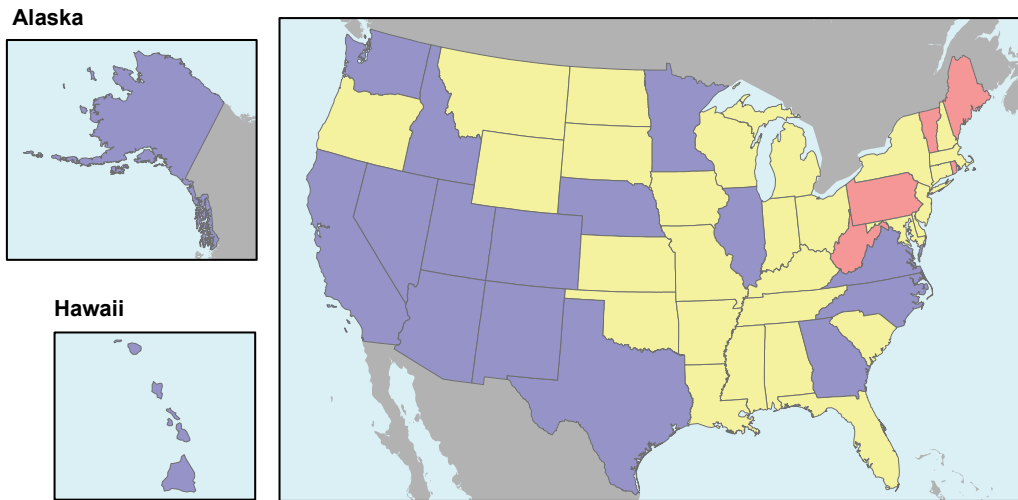
Maine, Pennsylvania, and Vermont had relatively low rates of natural population growth. West Virginia was the only state to experience natural population decline between 2000 and 2009.

A state's age structure strongly influences its rate of natural population change. In general, the older the population base, the higher the incidence of deaths relative to births. States that are attractive to young adults typically enjoy high rates of natural population growth.

Figures 3 and 4 show the separate effects of population change from births and deaths. Arizona, Texas, and Utah had the highest rates of change from births. Florida, Maine, and West Virginia posted the highest rates of change from deaths. Iowa's rate of change from births was lower than the U.S. average, while its rate of change from deaths exceeded the U.S. average.

Iowa ranked 38th among all states in its rate of natural population change from 2000-2009.

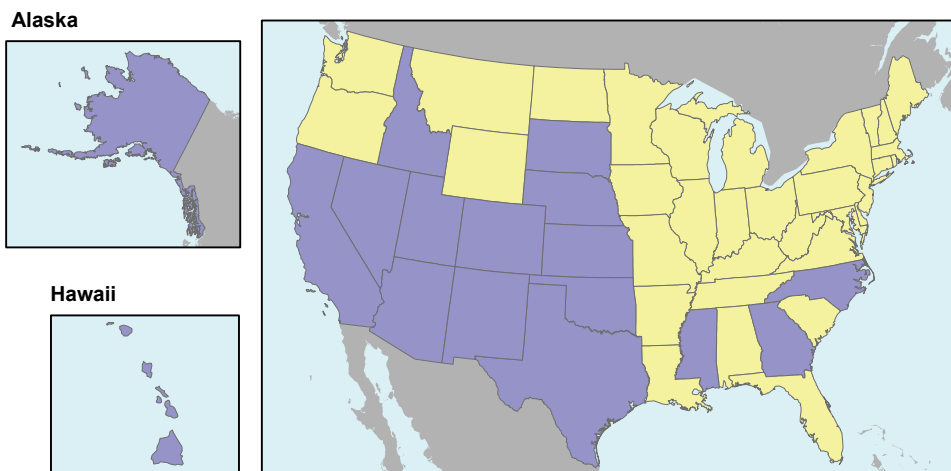
Figure 2



**Annualized Rates of Natural Population Change, 2000-2009**

**Average annual rate**  
■ Lower than half of U.S. average  
■ 1/2 to equal U.S. average  
■ Higher than U.S. average

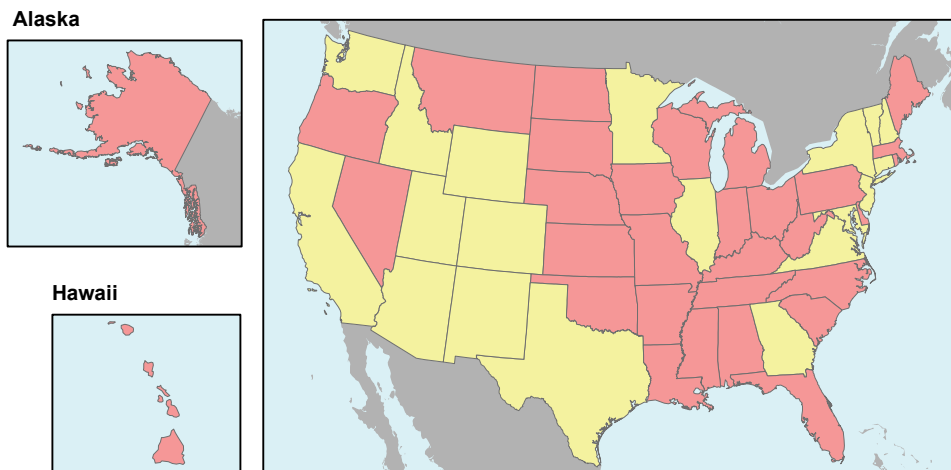
Figure 3



**Annualized Rates of Population Change  
from Births, 2000-2009**

**Average annual rate**  
Lower than U.S. average  
Higher than U.S. average

Figure 4



**Annualized Rates of Population Change  
from Deaths, 2000-2009**

**Average annual rate**  
Lower than U.S. average  
Higher than U.S. average

# 2000-2009 Net Migration

Net migration flows into the United States accounted for 35 percent of the total U.S. population change from 2000 to 2009. These international inflows, combined with the domestic exchanges of residents between states, yielded overall net migration gains in 36 states. The remaining 14 states (plus Washington, D.C.) experienced net migration losses for the decade.

Figure 5 illustrates the rates of overall net migration by state on an average, annual basis. Iowa's overall net migration rate of -0.06 percent ranked 40th among the states.

Considering only domestic migration flows, Iowa has lost more than 52,200 residents in its net exchanges with other states this decade. Iowa joined 23 other states on the losing side in a competition for residents.

Figure 6 shows the average annual rates of net domestic migration from April 1st of 2000 through July 1st of 2009.

The states with the highest rates of domestic losses include New York, the District of Columbia, and Louisiana. Among the gainers, Nevada, Arizona, and Idaho experienced the highest rates of growth from domestic in-migration.

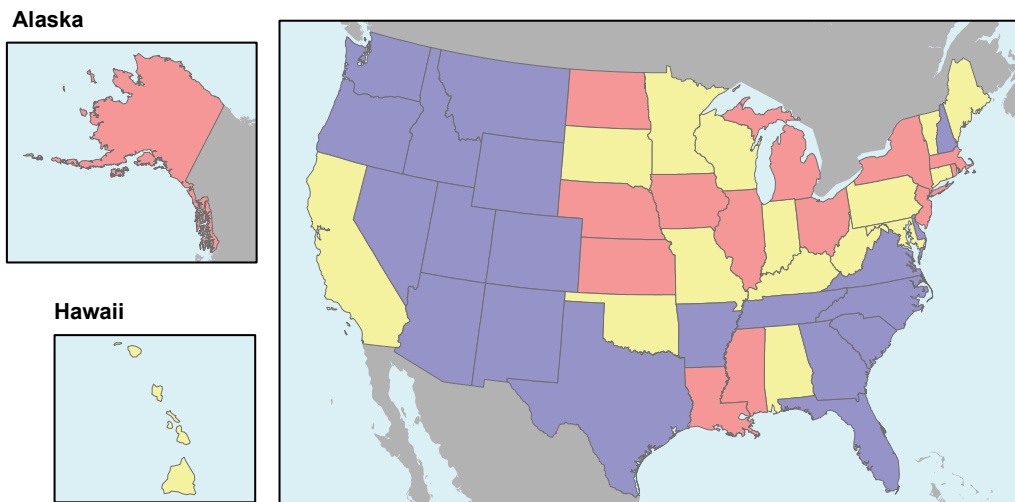
All states have experienced net gains from international migration during this decade. Figure 7 illustrates the average annual rates of net international migration by state.

The three states with the highest rates of net international in-migration were California, New York, and New Jersey. In all, 15 states and Washington, D.C. exceeded the national average rate of 0.34 percent per year.

*(continued on page 8)*

Iowa ranked 40th among all states in its rate of population change from net migration during 2000-2009.

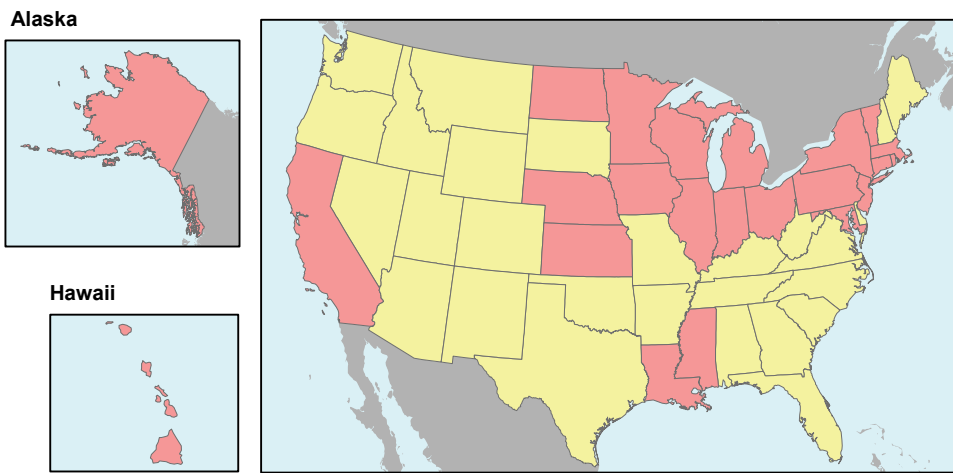
Figure 5



## Annualized Rates of Net Migration Change, 2000-2009

**Average annual rate**  
■ Negative  
■ Lower than U.S. average  
■ Higher than U.S. average

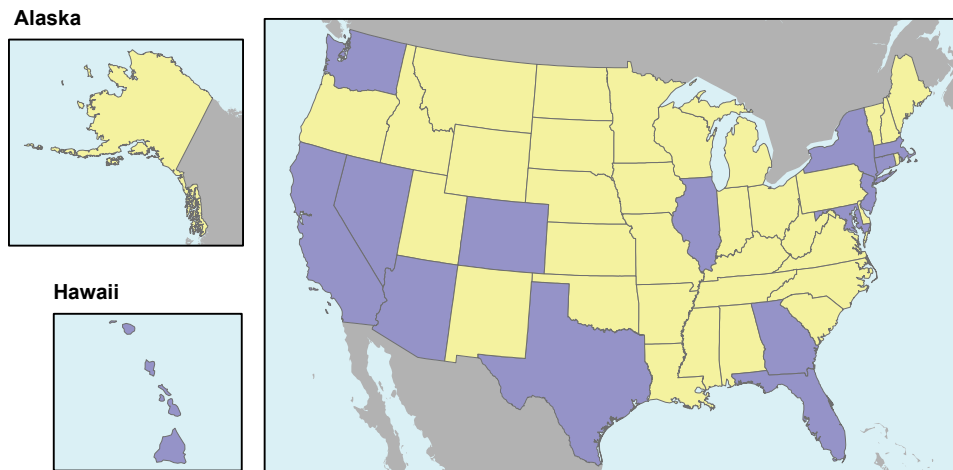
Figure 6



**Annualized Rates of Net Domestic Migration Change, 2000-2009**

Average annual rate  
■ Negative  
■ Positive

Figure 7



**Annualized Rates of Net International Migration Change, 2000-2009**

Average annual rate  
■ Lower than U.S. average  
■ Higher than U.S. average

# Net Migration, continued

(continued from page 6)

States with the lowest rates of gain from international in-migration include Montana, West Virginia, and Mississippi. Iowa averaged an annual growth rate of 0.16 percent from international in-migration, which ranked 29th among the states.

In Iowa and several other Midwestern states, their international migration gains have helped to buffer recent domestic migration losses. Iowa has attracted 36,300 new residents from outside the United States since 2000, partially offsetting its domestic outflows of 52,200. Iowa's overall migration performance for the 2000-2009 period was a net loss of 15,900 residents.

## Summary

Annual population estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau help states to benchmark their performance in producing, retaining, and attracting new residents. This report investigates Iowa's population growth during the period from 2000-2009.

For the past decade, Iowa has lagged other states in its rate of growth from births and exceeded the national average in its rate of change from deaths.

Iowa's rate of population growth from international in-migration was lower than half the U.S. average rate. The gains from international migration were insufficient to offset losses caused by domestic out-migration to other states.

To the extent that Iowa's domestic out-migration losses involve residents of child-bearing age, they will impede the state's ability to grow from natural population change. Thus, domestic migration losses represent both a near-term and longer-term challenge for Iowa's population growth prospects.

### Iowa Population Reports

Regional Economics &  
Community Analysis Program

[www.recap.iastate.edu](http://www.recap.iastate.edu)

17 East Hall  
Iowa State University  
Ames, Iowa 50011

Phone: 515-294-9903  
Fax: 515-294-0592  
E-mail: [recap@iastate.edu](mailto:recap@iastate.edu)

*The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Many materials can be made available in alternative formats for ADA clients. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964.*

*Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Jack M. Payne, director, Cooperative Extension Service, Iowa State University of Science and Technology, Ames, Iowa.*



---

Iowa State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, sex, marital status, disability, or status as a U.S. veteran. Inquiries can be directed to the Director of Equal Opportunity and Diversity, 3680 Beardshear Hall, (515) 294-7612.