



Iowa School District Profiles

Alta

Overview

This profile describes enrollment trends, student performance, income levels, population, and other characteristics of the Alta public school district.

The report utilizes publicly-available data from the Iowa Department of Education, the Iowa Department of Management, and the U.S. Census Bureau. Historical trend data have been aggregated and allocated where possible to align with school district consolidations through the years.

Neighboring District Comparisons



For selected indicators, Alta district values are compared to those of neighboring school districts. The comparison group includes the ten public school districts nearest to Alta. Those districts are listed below.

Neighboring District Comparison Group

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Albert City-Truesdale | Marcus-Meriden-Cleghorn |
| Aurelia | Newell-Fonda |
| Cherokee | Schaller-Crestland |
| River Valley | Sioux Central |
| Galva-Holstein | Storm Lake |

Except where otherwise noted, average values for the neighboring district comparison group are *unweighted*, meaning that each district's score contributes equally to the average, regardless of its enrollment size.

Department of Economics

June 2013

About the District:

- Alta had 524 students enrolled in grades PK-12 during the 2012-2013 academic year.
- Among Iowa's 348 public school districts, Alta ranked #235 in enrollment size in 2012-2013.
- Administrative offices for the district are located in Buena Vista County, Iowa.

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District Quick Facts¹

| | Alta | Neighboring Districts | State of Iowa |
|--|-------|-----------------------|---------------|
| Enrollment Size | | | |
| Total PK-12 enrollment..... | 524 | | |
| Median enrollment size..... | - | 464 | 700 |
| Enrollment by Hispanic/Latino Origin | | | |
| Students of Hispanic or Latino origin..... | 102 | | |
| Percentage of PK-12 students of Hispanic or Latino origin..... | 19.5 | 13.5 | 9.3 |
| Minority Group Enrollment² | | | |
| Students of Hispanic or Latino origin, regardless of race, plus all students of any race other than White alone..... | 117 | | |
| Percentage of PK-12 students in one or more minority groups..... | 22.3 | 18.9 | 20.2 |
| English Language Learners | | | |
| Students with limited English proficiency..... | 22 | | |
| Percentage of PK-12 students with limited English proficiency..... | 4.2 | 6.8 | 4.8 |
| Eligibility for Free/Reduced School Lunch | | | |
| Eligible for free lunch..... | 197 | | |
| Eligible for reduced-price lunch..... | 44 | | |
| Total eligible for free or reduced-price lunch..... | 241 | | |
| Percentage of PK-12 students eligible for free/reduced-price lunch..... | 46.0 | 45.4 | 40.3 |
| Poverty Estimates³ | | | |
| School district total population..... | 2,909 | | |
| Number of children ages 5 to 17 years..... | 496 | | |
| Children ages 5 to 17 years in families in poverty..... | 79 | | |
| Percentage of children ages 5-17 years in families in poverty..... | 15.9 | 15.2 | 14.5 - 16.3 |

Notes:

- 1) Unless otherwise noted, data in the District Quick Facts tables were obtained from Iowa Department of Education (IDE) tabulations for the 2012-2013 academic year. Readers are encouraged to visit the IDE Web page (at <http://educateiowa.gov/>) for more detailed data and documentation.
- 2) In order to avoid confusion arising from differences between Iowa Department of Education and U.S. Census Bureau practices for reporting race and ethnicity, enrollment figures by specific race group are not reported here. More detailed tabulations of enrollment by race may be obtained directly from the Iowa Department of Education Website (<http://educateiowa.gov/>).
- 3) Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE), U.S. Census Bureau, 2011. SAIPE data are reported using point estimates for district-level poverty rates and a 90-percent confidence interval for the state-level rate. See the Data Notes for more information about the sources of poverty data appearing in this report.

District Quick Facts, continued

| | Alta | Neighboring Districts | State of Iowa |
|---|---------|-----------------------|---------------|
| Property Tax Rates ⁴ | | | |
| School district property tax rate per \$1,000 valuation..... | \$14.05 | \$13.14 | \$15.01 |
| Teaching Staff ⁵ | | | |
| Full-time teachers..... | 40 | | |
| with teaching position codes (TPC)..... | 30 | | |
| Part-time teachers..... | 2 | | |
| All other teachers, including shared positions..... | 11 | | |
| Student-to-Staff Ratios | | | |
| Certified enrollment..... | 503 | | |
| <i>Ratio of certified enrollment to full-time teachers.....</i> | 12.6 | 13.1 | 14.0 |
| <i>Ratio of certified enrollment to full-time teachers w/TPC.....</i> | 16.8 | 16.2 | 16.6 |
| Teacher Salaries ⁶ | | | |
| Average regular salary (\$) for full-time teachers w/TPC..... | 48,275 | 44,154 | 51,017 |
| Average total salary (\$) for full-time teachers w/TPC..... | 48,940 | 44,821 | 52,145 |
| Minimum total salary (\$) for full-time teachers w/TPC..... | 35,886 | 32,936 | 28,000 |
| Maximum total salary (\$) for full-time teachers w/TPC..... | 60,113 | 56,024 | 96,823 |
| Teacher Education and Experience | | | |
| Number of full-time teachers with advanced degrees..... | 9 | | |
| <i>Percentage of full-time teachers with advanced degrees.....</i> | 22.5 | 16.9 | 32.8 |
| Average total years of experience for full-time teachers..... | 17.0 | 14.0 | 14.1 |
| Average age in years of full-time teachers..... | 43.9 | 40.4 | 41.4 |
| High School Graduation and Dropout Rates ⁷ | | | |
| 4-year cohort graduation rate for the Class of 2012..... | 96.8 | 94.1 | 89.3 |
| Dropout rate for students in Grades 9-12 during 2011-2012..... | 1.4 | 1.7 | 3.2 |

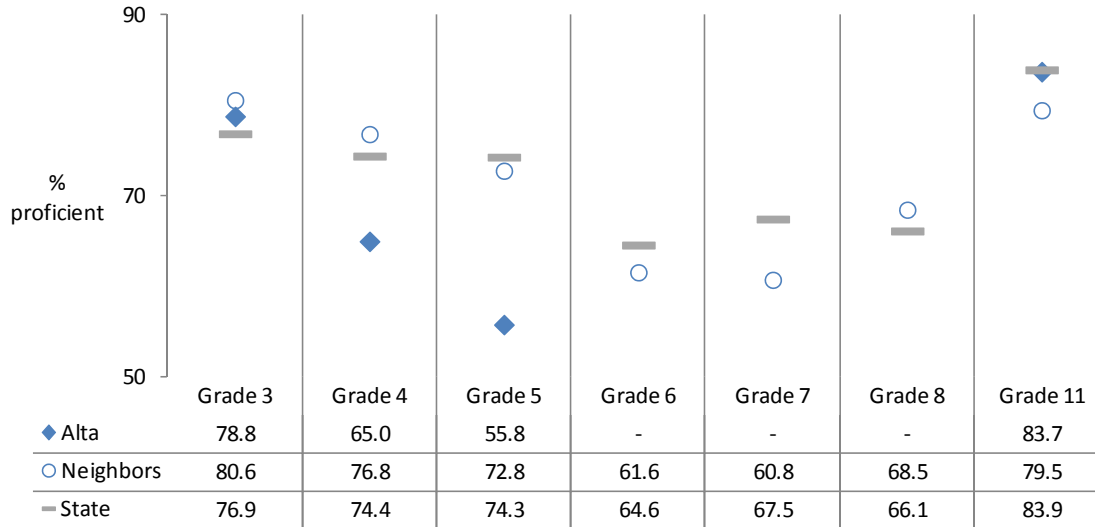
Notes:

- 4) Valuations for FY 2013 School Budgets, Iowa Department of Management.
- 5) Staff members with teaching position codes (TPC) may also serve in additional administrative or support capacities.
- 6) Regular salary covers direct position responsibilities and includes teacher salary supplement and professional development. Total salary includes regular salary plus extra salary paid for extracurricular and extra duties.
- 7) Graduates in the 4-year cohort include first-time 9th grade students in fall of 2008 who graduated in 2012 or before, plus students who transferred into that cohort and graduated in 2012 or before. Dropout rates measure the percentage of students in grades 9-12 who dropped out during the one-year period beginning October 1, 2011.

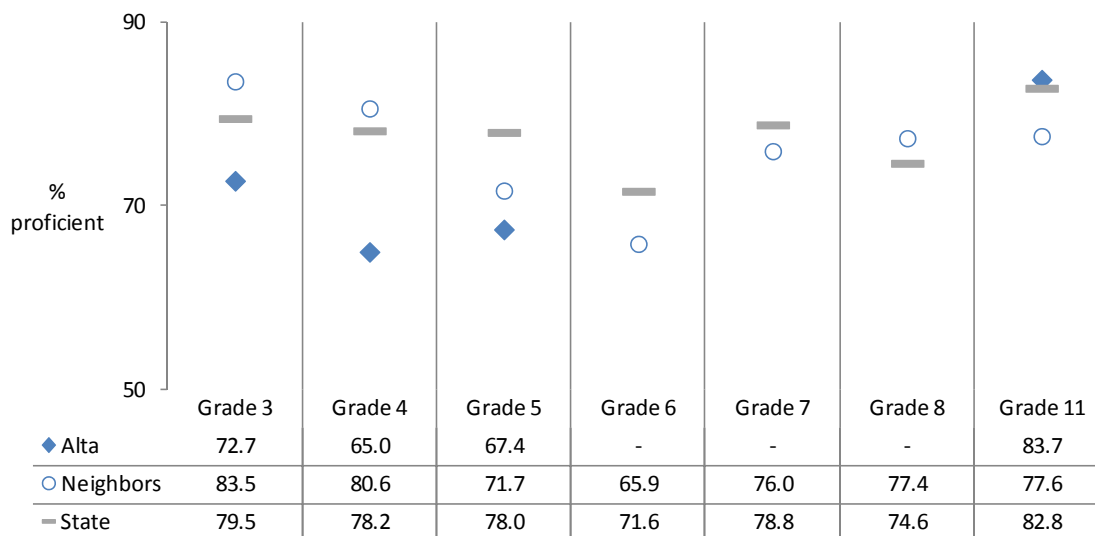
Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in Reading and Math

The Iowa Assessment Reading and Math Tests are used to evaluate adequate yearly progress of students in Iowa’s school districts. The following charts illustrate the percentage of Alta students designated as “proficient” or “advanced” in reading and math based on their standardized test scores for 2012. Source data were obtained from the Iowa Department of Education.

Reading Proficiency by Grade, 2012

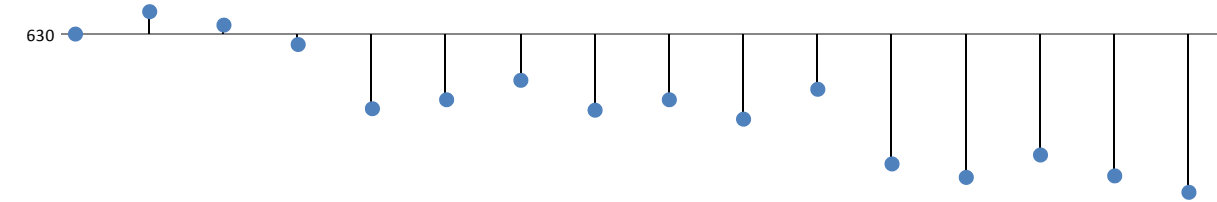


Math Proficiency by Grade, 2012



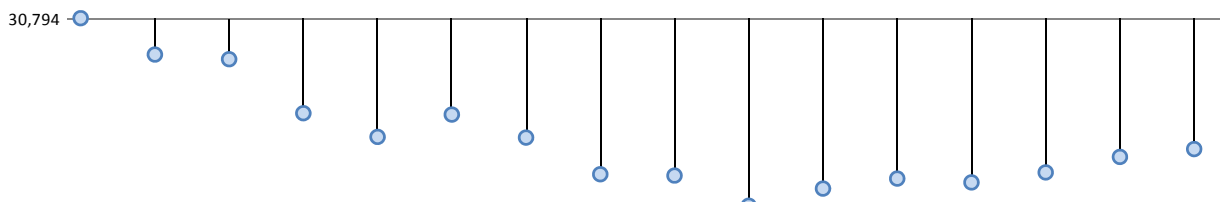
Recent Enrollment Trends

Alta: PK-12 enrollment benchmarked to 1997-1998



| | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| ● | 630 | 645 | 636 | 623 | 580 | 586 | 599 | 579 | 586 | 573 | 593 | 543 | 534 | 549 | 535 | 524 |

Neighboring Districts (aggregated total): PK-12 enrollment benchmarked to 1997-1998



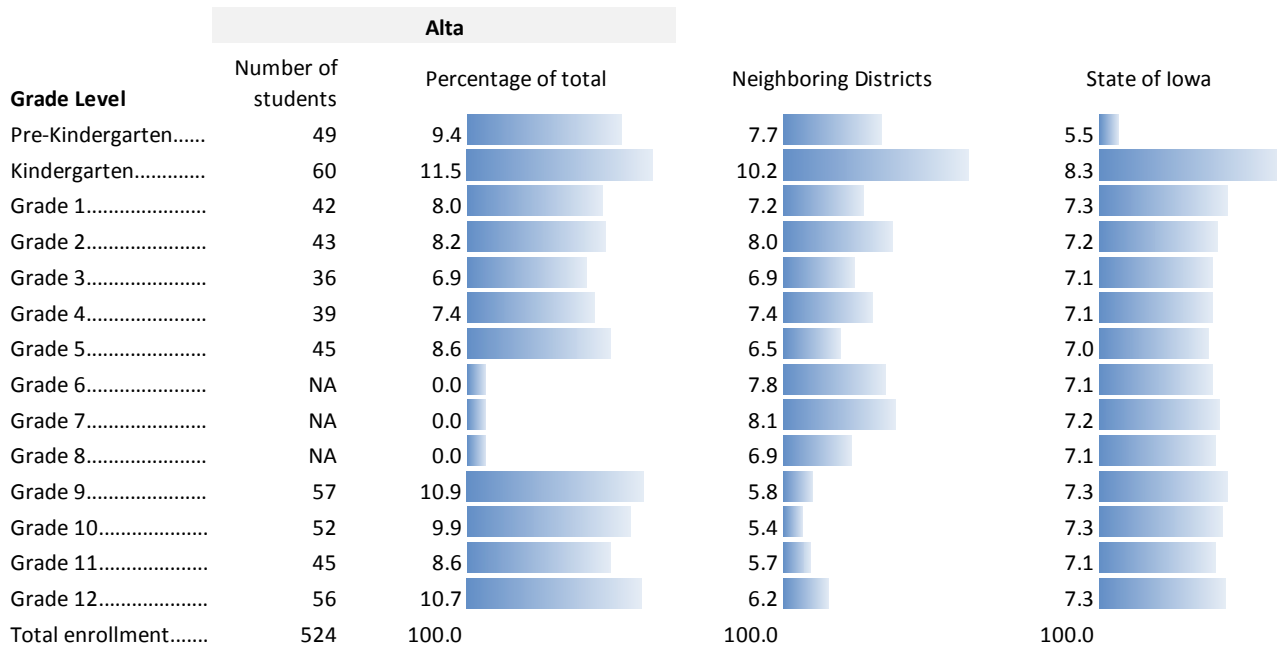
| | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| ○ | 7,495 | 7,277 | 7,249 | 6,925 | 6,783 | 6,917 | 6,779 | 6,559 | 6,551 | 6,370 | 6,473 | 6,533 | 6,510 | 6,570 | 6,663 | 6,710 |

State of Iowa: PK-12 enrollment benchmarked to 1997-1998



| | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| ● | 498,900 | 496,214 | 494,962 | 492,022 | 485,932 | 482,210 | 481,226 | 478,319 | 483,482 | 483,122 | 485,115 | 487,559 | 490,417 | 495,897 | 496,009 | 500,601 |

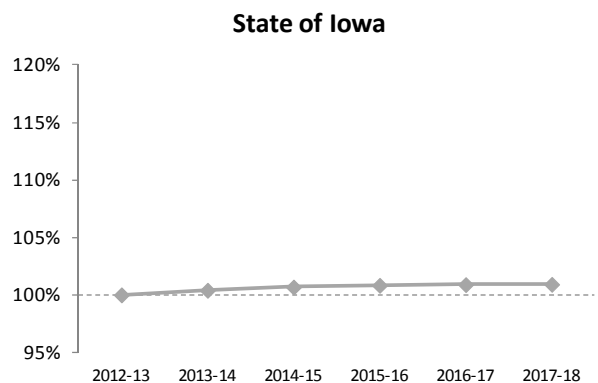
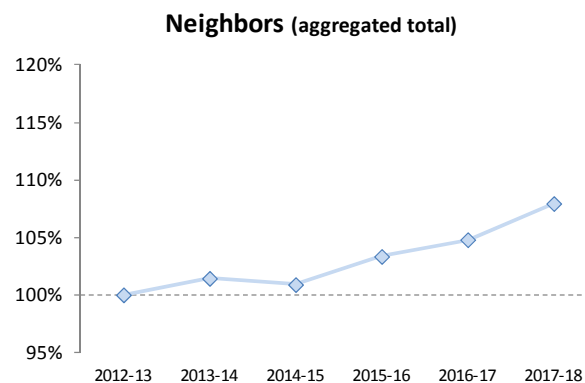
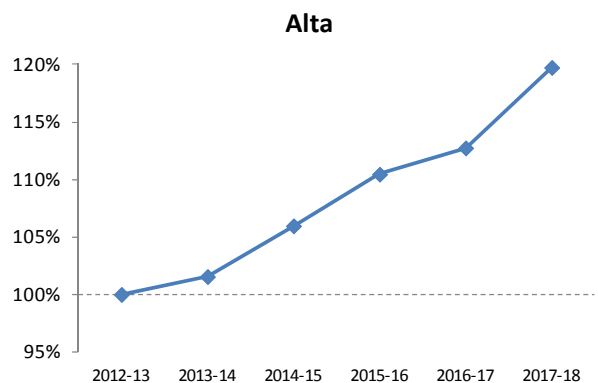
Enrollment and Percentage of Enrollment by Grade, 2012-2013



Projected Changes in Certified Enrollment (as a percentage of 2012-2013)

The Iowa Department of Education projects an overall gain of 19.7 percent in Alta certified enrollment through the next five academic years, from a baseline of 503 students in 2012-2013.

Note: Certified enrollment may differ from total enrollment values reported elsewhere in this profile. See the Data Notes for more information.



2010 Census Demographic Summary, U.S. Census Bureau

The decennial population census, last conducted in 2010, provides the most accurate data available on school district population size; population by age, race, and ethnicity; and number and types of households and families. The following table summarizes 2010 Census data for Alta.

| | Alta | | Neighboring Districts | State of Iowa |
|--|--------|------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| | Number | Percentage | | |
| Total population | 2,888 | | | |
| Under 18 years of age..... | 726 | 25.1 | 23.1 | 23.9 |
| Age 65 years or older..... | 506 | 17.5 | 19.1 | 14.9 |
| Hispanic or Latino, any race..... | 355 | 12.3 | 6.2 | 5.0 |
| Race other than White alone, regardless of Hispanic/Latino origin..... | 220 | 7.6 | 5.8 | 8.7 |
| White alone, not Hispanic or Latino..... | 2,448 | 84.8 | 91.0 | 88.7 |
| Households | 1,168 | | | |
| In owner-occupied housing units..... | 890 | 76.2 | 77.0 | 72.1 |
| Family households..... | 824 | 70.5 | 66.8 | 64.7 |
| Householder age 65 years or older..... | 268 | 22.9 | 24.5 | 19.3 |
| Families with related children < 18 years of age | 347 | | | |
| Married couple families..... | 262 | 75.5 | 74.0 | 69.4 |
| Female householder, no husband present..... | 58 | 16.7 | 16.4 | 21.7 |

American Community Survey Profiles, U.S. Census Bureau

The American Community Survey (ACS) is an ongoing survey of households conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. The ACS supplements the decennial census program by providing more up-to-date and detailed socio-economic data for the nation, states, and smaller geographic areas. Published ACS estimates for small areas such as school districts represent rolling averages of survey responses received during a five-year data collection period. The most recent ACS data release describes average conditions during 2007-2011.

ACS estimates are derived from a sample of the population, as opposed to a complete enumeration. To reflect the degree of sampling error inherent in the survey process, the Census Bureau reports a margin of error (MOE) value with each published ACS estimate. This report applies the MOE values in two ways: (1) to construct a 90-percent confidence interval showing lower and upper bounds for an estimate's likely values, and (2) to calculate a coefficient of variation (CV) score for each estimate. The CV score, a ratio of the standard error of an estimate to the estimate itself, provides a convenient way to evaluate whether the sampled population was of sufficient size to reasonably represent the true population.

The following tables contain ACS demographic and income data for the district. Readers should evaluate any published ACS estimate within context of its CV score, as indicated by a color-coded data quality flag. Estimates with a CV greater than 50 percent are not recommended for use; however, readers may decide for themselves whether the data quality for a given measure is adequate for their specific needs.

Demographic Profile, 2007-2011 American Community Survey

See Page 7 for more information about interpreting ACS data.

| Alta | Point Estimate | Range of Likely Values | | Data Quality Flag |
|--|----------------|------------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| | | Lower Bound | Upper Bound | |
| Total population | 2,875 | 2,692 | 3,058 | ? |
| Age 65 years or older (% of all persons) | 18.9 | 16.2 | 21.6 | ? |
| Race and ethnicity (% of all persons) | | | | |
| White alone..... | 94.3 | 92.1 | 96.5 | ? |
| Black alone..... | 0.5 | 0.0 | 1.1 | ??? |
| American Indian/Alaska Native alone..... | 0.7 | 0.1 | 1.3 | ??? |
| Asian alone..... | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.8 | ??? |
| Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander alone..... | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.2 | ??? |
| Other race alone..... | 3.1 | 1.2 | 5.0 | ?? |
| Two or more races..... | 1.5 | 0.2 | 2.8 | ??? |
| Hispanic, any race..... | 9.1 | 5.9 | 12.3 | ? |
| Educational attainment (% of adults age 25 years or older) | | | | |
| High school diploma or equivalent..... | 87.5 | 84.1 | 90.9 | ? |
| Bachelor's degree or higher..... | 28.9 | 24.5 | 33.3 | ? |
| Children in households by family type (number of children) | | | | |
| Total children..... | 679 | 582 | 776 | ? |
| In married couple family..... | 600 | 507 | 693 | ? |
| Male householder, no wife present..... | 24 | 0 | 49 | ??? |
| Female householder, no husband present (NHP)..... | 50 | 23 | 77 | ?? |
| Non-family household..... | 5 | 0 | 13 | ??? |
| Children by employment status of parents | | | | |
| Number of own children < 6 years with all parents in labor force..... | 176 | 119 | 233 | ? |
| Percentage of own children < 6 years with all parents in labor force..... | 67.2 | 52.0 | 82.4 | ? |
| Number of own children 6-17 years with all parents in labor force..... | 331 | 258 | 404 | ? |
| Percentage of own children 6-17 years with all parents in labor force..... | 81.3 | 72.6 | 90.0 | ? |

DATA QUALITY KEY

| Flag | Degree of uncertainty based on coefficient of variation (CV) score | Guidelines for data use |
|------|--|-----------------------------------|
| ? | Acceptable degree of uncertainty (CV < 25 percent) | Use data with relative confidence |
| ?? | Moderate degree of uncertainty (CV = 25 to 50 percent) | Use data with caution |
| ??? | High degree of uncertainty (CV > 50 percent) | Data use is NOT recommended |

Income Profile, 2007-2011 American Community Survey

See Page 7 for more information about interpreting ACS data.

| Alta | Point Estimate | Range of Likely Values | | Data Quality Flag |
|--|----------------|------------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| | | Lower Bound | Upper Bound | |
| Income characteristics (\$) | | | | |
| Median household income..... | 53,533 | 46,888 | 60,178 | ? |
| Mean household income..... | 69,958 | 60,677 | 79,239 | ? |
| Median family income..... | 66,786 | 60,628 | 72,944 | ? |
| Mean family income..... | 82,875 | 70,216 | 95,534 | ? |
| Per capita income..... | 29,193 | 25,457 | 32,929 | ? |
| Families in poverty (number of families) | | | | |
| All families in poverty..... | 22 | 9 | 35 | ?? |
| Married couple families in poverty..... | 3 | 0 | 8 | ??? |
| Male householder no wife present with related children in poverty..... | 0 | 0 | 74 | ??? |
| Female householder NHP with related children in poverty..... | 9 | 1 | 17 | ??? |
| Families at selected ratios of income to poverty level (number of families) | | | | |
| Under 130%..... | 64 | 38 | 90 | ? |
| 130% to 149%..... | 27 | 6 | 48 | ?? |
| 150% to 184%..... | 54 | 24 | 84 | ?? |
| Poverty rates for selected family types (% in poverty) | | | | |
| Families with related children under 18 years..... | 3.1 | 0.7 | 5.5 | ?? |
| Female householder NHP w/related children under 18 years..... | 25.0 | 0.9 | 49.1 | ??? |
| Child poverty rates* (% in poverty) | | | | |
| All children..... | 3.0 | 0.6 | 5.4 | ?? |
| Related children under 5 years of age..... | 7.6 | 1.4 | 13.8 | ?? |
| Related children ages 5-17 years..... | 0.7 | 0.0 | 1.8 | ??? |

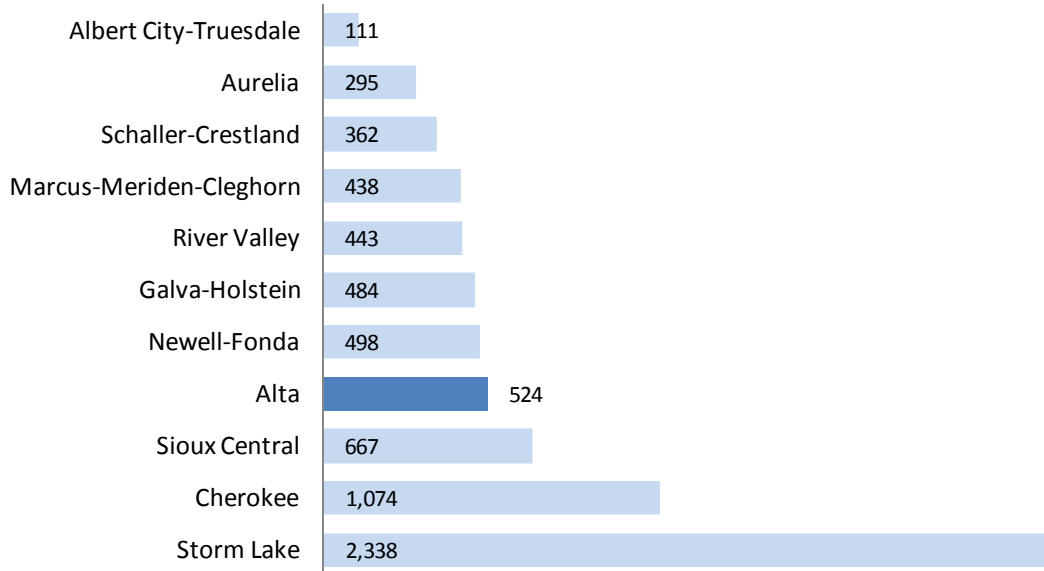
*Note: The child poverty rates reported above may differ from the single-year estimates reported on Page 2, which were obtained from the Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) program, U.S. Census Bureau. SAIPE estimates, which the Census Bureau considers more precise, are used for Title I allocations to school districts.

DATA QUALITY KEY

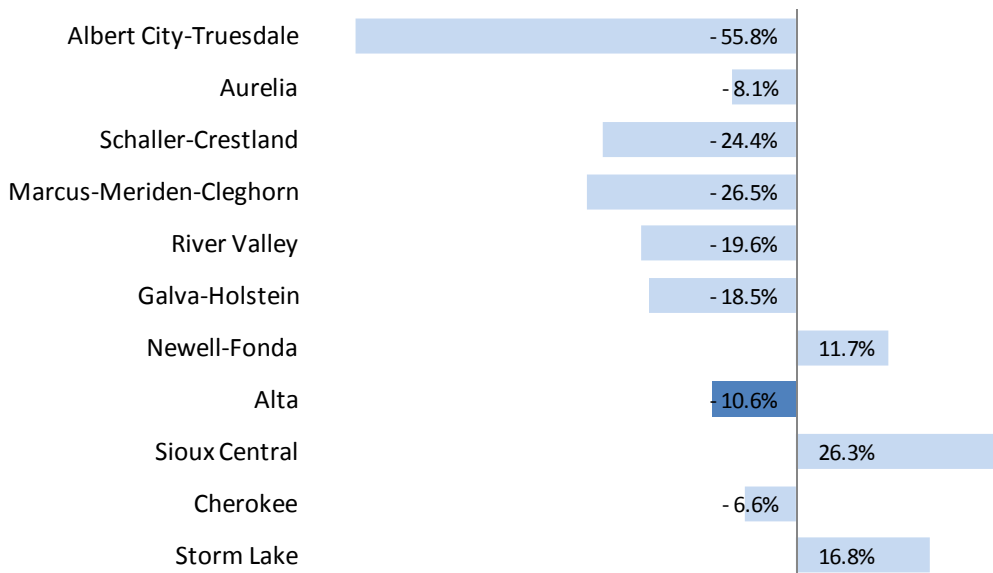
| Flag | Degree of uncertainty based on coefficient of variation (CV) score | Guidelines for data use |
|------|--|-----------------------------------|
| ? | Acceptable degree of uncertainty (CV < 25 percent) | Use data with relative confidence |
| ?? | Moderate degree of uncertainty (CV = 25 to 50 percent) | Use data with caution |
| ??? | High degree of uncertainty (CV > 50 percent) | Data use is NOT recommended |

Neighboring District Comparison Charts

Total PK-12 Enrollment, 2012-2013
(Iowa Department of Education)

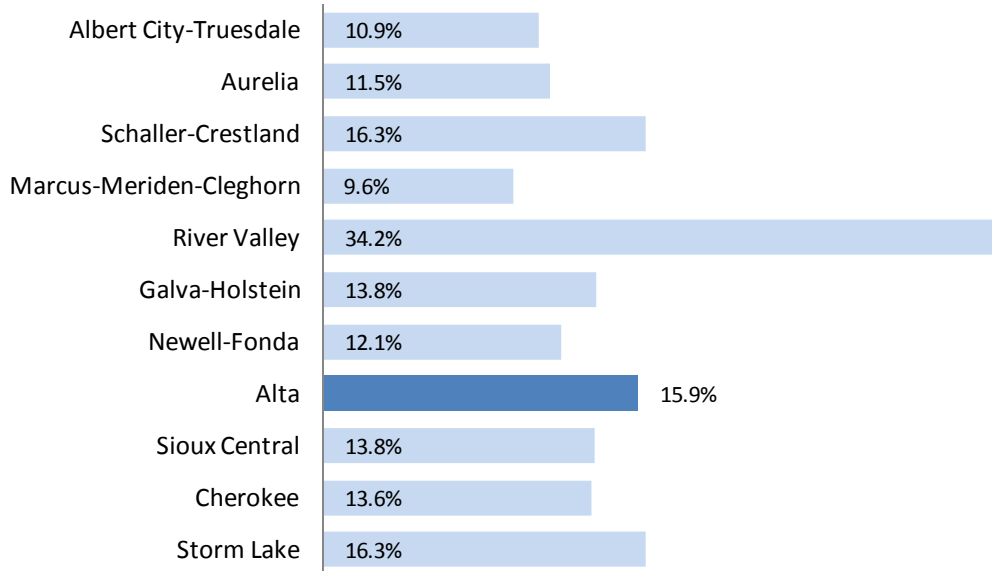


Ten-Year Percentage Change in PK-12 Enrollment, 2002-2003 to 2012-2013
(Iowa Department of Education)

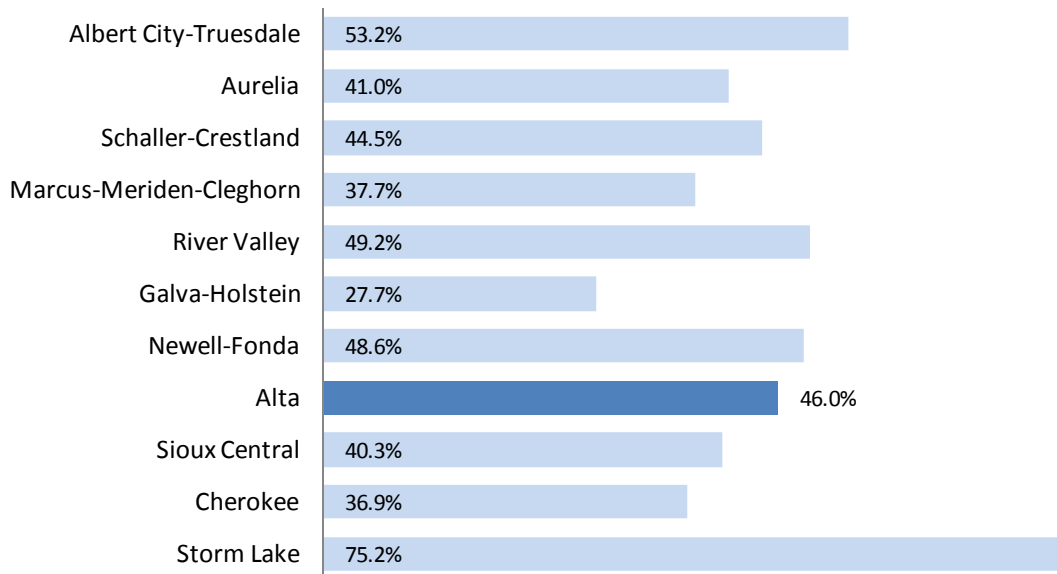


Neighboring District Comparison Charts

Percentage of School-Age Children in Families in Poverty, 2011
(SAIPE, U.S. Census Bureau)

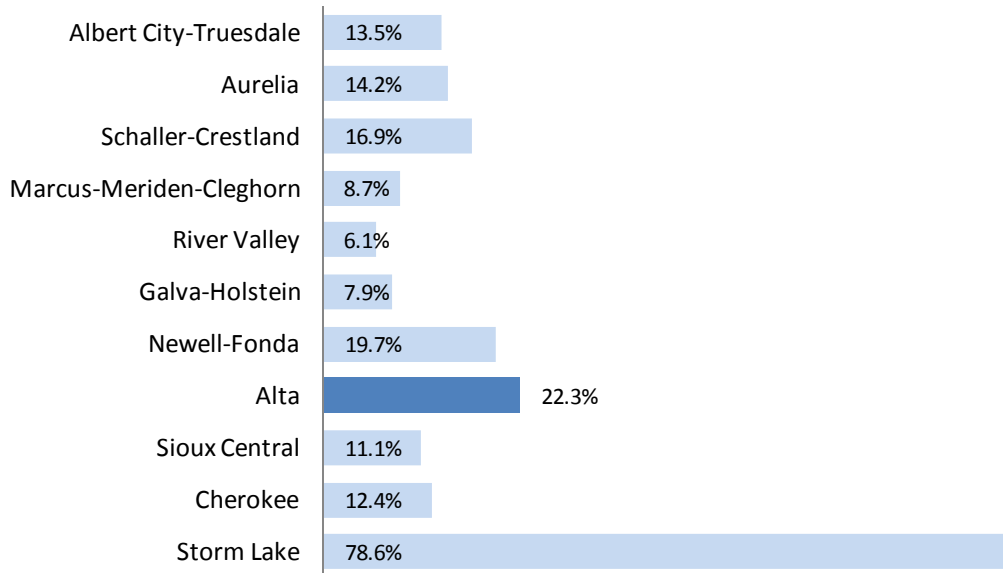


Percentage of Students Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Lunch, 2012-2013
(Iowa Department of Education)

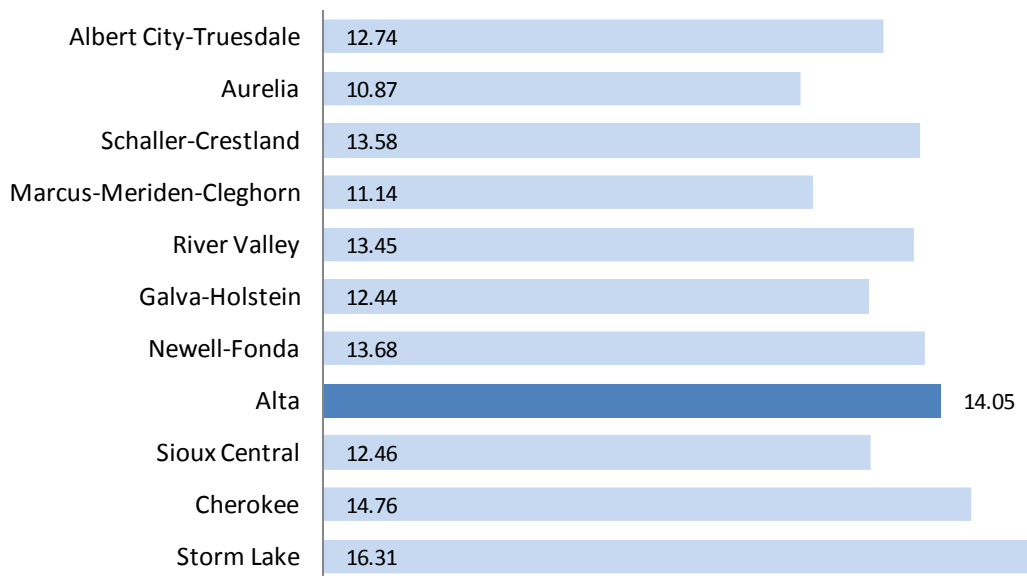


Neighboring District Comparison Charts

Minority Group Percentage Share of PK-12 Enrollment, 2012-2013 (Iowa Department of Education)



School District Property Tax Rate Per \$1,000 Valuation, FY 2013 (Iowa Department of Management)





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Data Notes and Sources

- **Current and historical enrollment** data were obtained from the Iowa Department of Education's Basic Educational Data Survey (BEDS) tabulations. These values may differ from *certified* enrollment totals, which are used for allocation of state funding and other administrative purposes.
- **Projected enrollment** data, describing expected short-term changes in certified enrollment, were obtained from the Iowa Department of Education.
- **Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), teaching staff, and student** data such as eligibility for Free or Reduced School Lunch and English language proficiency were obtained from the Iowa Department of Education.
- **Property tax rates** were obtained from the Iowa Department of Management.
- **Poverty** data were obtained from the Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) and American Community Survey programs, both administered by the U.S. Census Bureau. The SAIPE estimates are preferred for official reporting of student poverty rates and for allocation of Title I funding. The ACS data provide additional detail to help characterize poverty levels among individuals and families within the district.
- **Other population and income data** were obtained from the 2010 Census and the American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau.

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