



Iowa School District Profiles

Spencer

Overview

This profile describes enrollment trends, student performance, income levels, population, and other characteristics of the Spencer 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, Spencer district values are compared to those of neighboring school districts. The comparison group includes the ten public school districts nearest to Spencer. Those districts are listed below.

Neighboring District Comparison Group

Clay Central-Everly	Laurens-Marathon
Emmetsburg	Okoboji
Graettinger-Terril	Ruthven-Ayrshire
Harris-Lake Park	Sioux Central
Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn	Spirit 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:

- Spencer had 2,098 students enrolled in grades PK-12 during the 2012-2013 academic year.
- Among Iowa's 348 public school districts, Spencer ranked #42 in enrollment size in 2012-2013.
- Administrative offices for the district are located in Clay County, Iowa.

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District Quick Facts¹

	Spencer	Neighboring Districts	State of Iowa
Enrollment Size			
Total PK-12 enrollment.....	2,098		
Median enrollment size.....	-	517	700
Enrollment by Hispanic/Latino Origin			
Students of Hispanic or Latino origin.....	162		
Percentage of PK-12 students of Hispanic or Latino origin.....	7.7	4.2	9.3
Minority Group Enrollment²			
Students of Hispanic or Latino origin, regardless of race, plus all students of any race other than White alone.....	235		
Percentage of PK-12 students in one or more minority groups.....	11.2	7.3	20.2
English Language Learners			
Students with limited English proficiency.....	23		
Percentage of PK-12 students with limited English proficiency.....	1.1	1.0	4.8
Eligibility for Free/Reduced School Lunch			
Eligible for free lunch.....	732		
Eligible for reduced-price lunch.....	177		
Total eligible for free or reduced-price lunch.....	909		
Percentage of PK-12 students eligible for free/reduced-price lunch.....	43.3	38.5	40.3
Poverty Estimates³			
School district total population.....	12,642		
Number of children ages 5 to 17 years.....	2,079		
Children ages 5 to 17 years in families in poverty.....	297		
Percentage of children ages 5-17 years in families in poverty.....	14.3	14.0	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

	Spencer	Neighboring Districts	State of Iowa
Property Tax Rates ⁴			
School district property tax rate per \$1,000 valuation.....	\$14.60	\$12.41	\$15.01
Teaching Staff ⁵			
Full-time teachers.....	133		
with teaching position codes (TPC).....	112		
Part-time teachers.....	6		
All other teachers, including shared positions.....	1		
Student-to-Staff Ratios			
Certified enrollment.....	1,927		
<i>Ratio of certified enrollment to full-time teachers.....</i>	14.5	12.4	14.0
<i>Ratio of certified enrollment to full-time teachers w/TPC.....</i>	17.2	17.5	16.6
Teacher Salaries ⁶			
Average regular salary (\$) for full-time teachers w/TPC.....	53,679	47,107	51,017
Average total salary (\$) for full-time teachers w/TPC.....	54,680	47,914	52,145
Minimum total salary (\$) for full-time teachers w/TPC.....	31,829	33,482	28,000
Maximum total salary (\$) for full-time teachers w/TPC.....	69,450	59,374	96,823
Teacher Education and Experience			
Number of full-time teachers with advanced degrees.....	33		
<i>Percentage of full-time teachers with advanced degrees.....</i>	24.8	17.4	32.8
Average total years of experience for full-time teachers.....	17.6	15.3	14.1
Average age in years of full-time teachers.....	43.1	42.3	41.4
High School Graduation and Dropout Rates ⁷			
4-year cohort graduation rate for the Class of 2012.....	89.3	92.8	89.3
Dropout rate for students in Grades 9-12 during 2011-2012.....	2.5	1.7	3.2

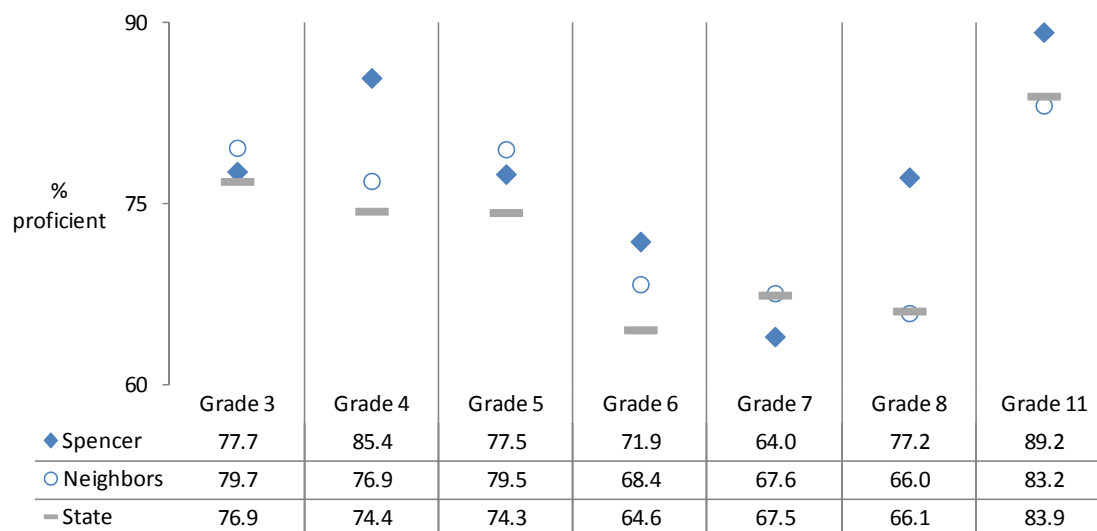
Notes:

- 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.

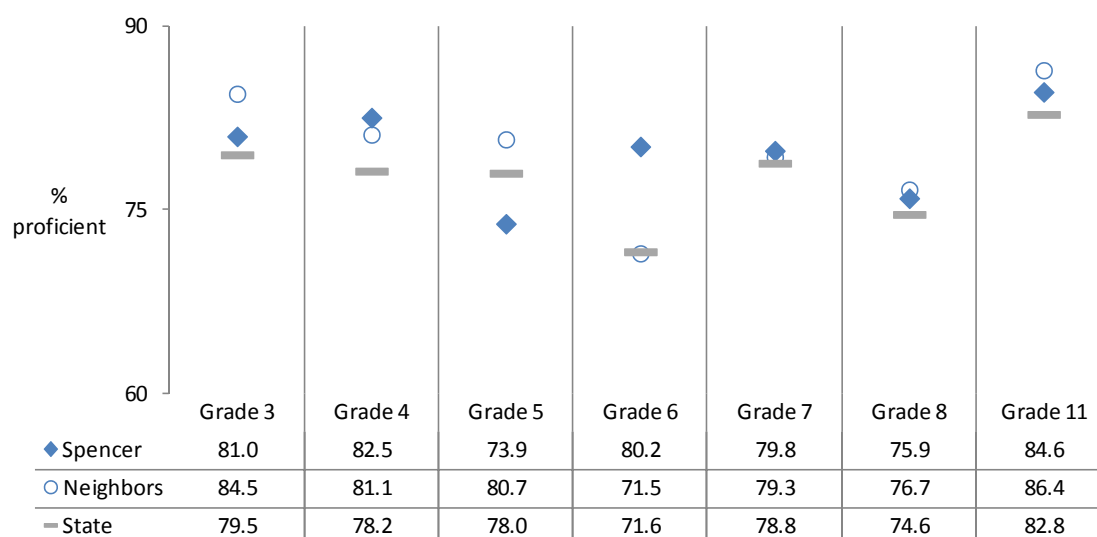
Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in Reading and Math

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 Spencer 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

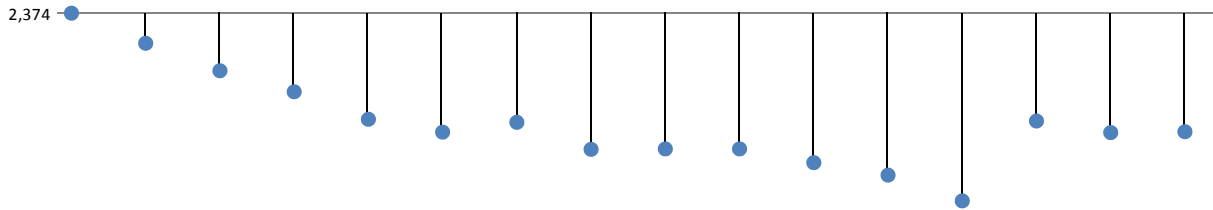


Math Proficiency by Grade, 2012



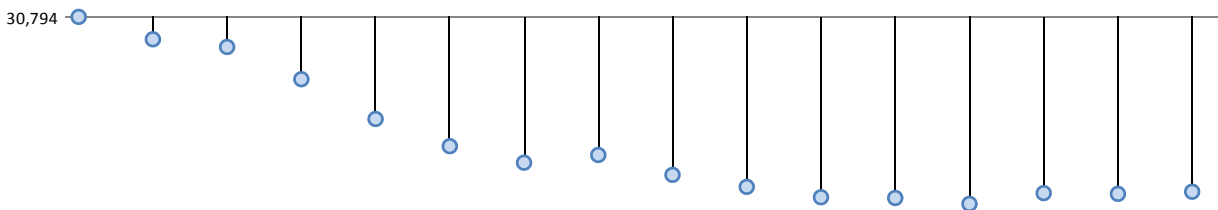
Recent Enrollment Trends

Spencer: PK-12 enrollment benchmarked to 1997-1998



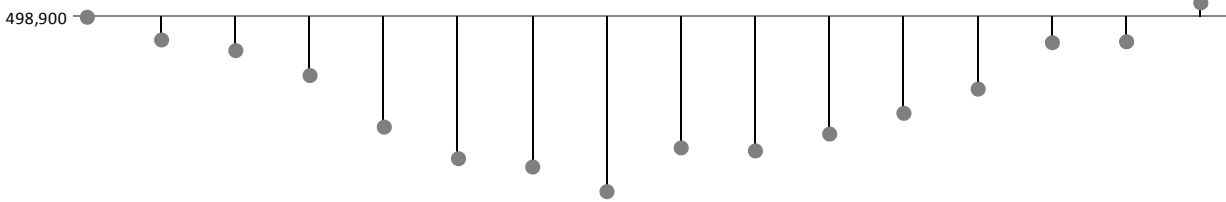
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
●	2,374	2,304	2,240	2,191	2,127	2,097	2,120	2,057	2,058	2,058	2,026	1,997	1,937	2,123	2,096	2,098

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



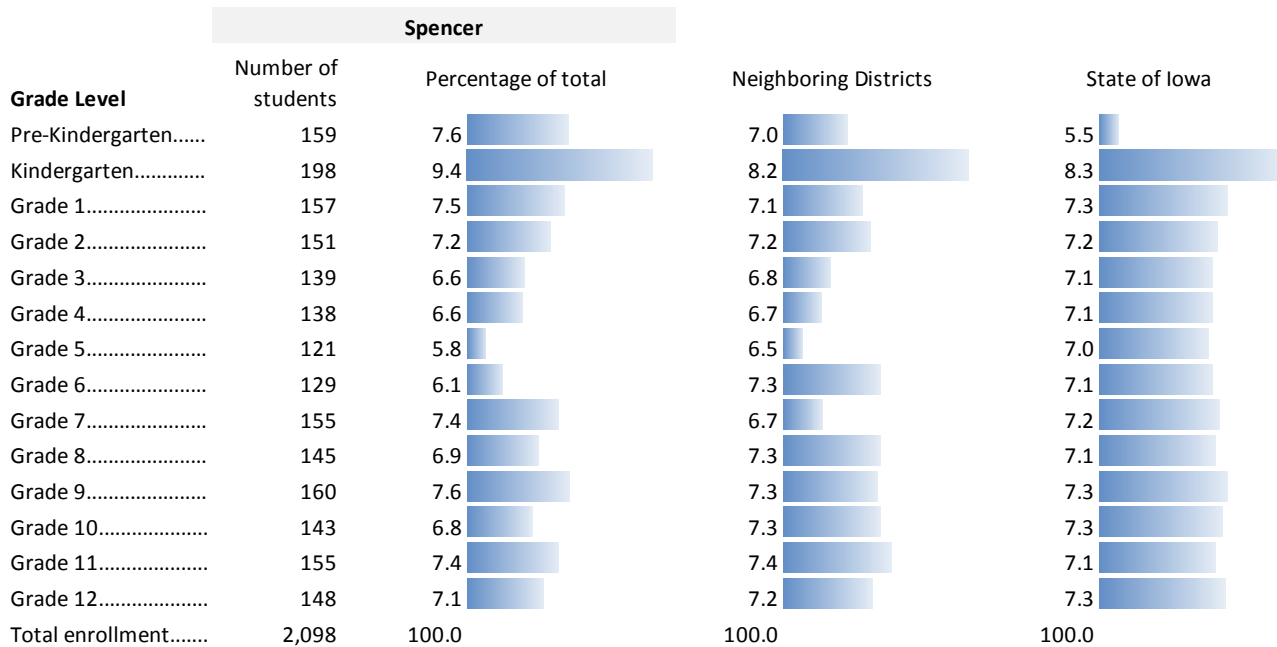
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
○	6,987	6,862	6,819	6,639	6,417	6,265	6,173	6,216	6,105	6,038	5,980	5,976	5,943	6,003	5,999	6,011

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

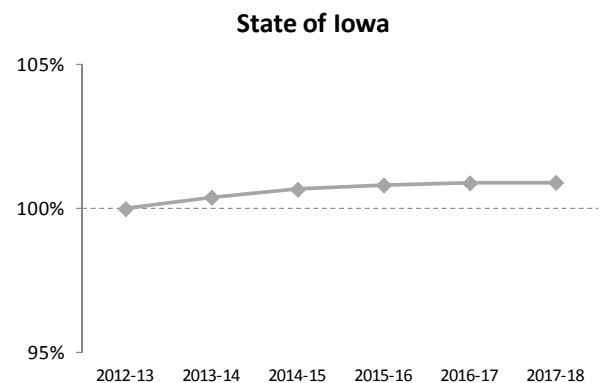
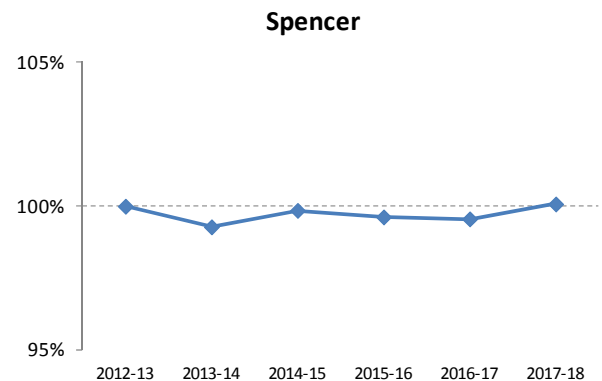
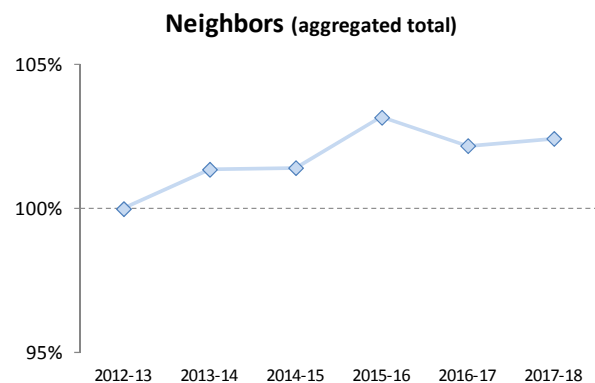
Enrollment and Percentage of Enrollment by Grade, 2012-2013



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

The Iowa Department of Education projects an overall gain of 0.1 percent in Spencer certified enrollment through the next five academic years, from a baseline of 1,927 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 Spencer.

	Spencer		Neighboring Districts	State of Iowa
	Number	Percentage		
Total population	12,176			
Under 18 years of age.....	2,797	23.0	22.0	23.9
Age 65 years or older.....	2,346	19.3	20.0	14.9
Hispanic or Latino, any race.....	407	3.3	1.9	5.0
Race other than White alone, regardless of Hispanic/Latino origin.....	487	4.0	2.3	8.7
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino.....	11,479	94.3	96.7	88.7
Households	5,390			
In owner-occupied housing units.....	3,627	67.3	77.8	72.1
Family households.....	3,305	61.3	64.6	64.7
Householder age 65 years or older.....	1,133	21.0	25.2	19.3
Families with related children < 18 years of age	1,461			
Married couple families.....	948	64.9	71.9	69.4
Female householder, no husband present.....	392	26.8	17.7	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.

Spencer	Point Estimate	Range of Likely Values		Data Quality Flag
		Lower Bound	Upper Bound	
Total population	12,170	11,892	12,448	?
Age 65 years or older (% of all persons)	19.1	18.4	19.8	?
Race and ethnicity (% of all persons)				
White alone.....	97.0	96.1	97.9	?
Black alone.....	0.2	0.1	0.3	??
American Indian/Alaska Native alone.....	0.0	0.0	0.2	???
Asian alone.....	0.6	0.4	0.8	?
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander alone.....	0.4	0.1	0.7	??
Other race alone.....	1.0	0.2	1.8	??
Two or more races.....	0.8	0.4	1.2	??
Hispanic, any race.....	3.3	3.0	3.6	?
Educational attainment (% of adults age 25 years or older)				
High school diploma or equivalent.....	92.4	90.5	94.3	?
Bachelor's degree or higher.....	19.0	15.9	22.1	?
Children in households by family type (number of children)				
Total children.....	2,742	2,598	2,886	?
In married couple family.....	1,766	1,470	2,062	?
Male householder, no wife present.....	208	14	402	???
Female householder, no husband present (NHP).....	744	499	989	?
Non-family household.....	24	0	63	???
Children by employment status of parents				
Number of own children < 6 years with all parents in labor force.....	857	713	1,001	?
Percentage of own children < 6 years with all parents in labor force.....	90.3	84.0	96.6	?
Number of own children 6-17 years with all parents in labor force.....	1,471	1,282	1,660	?
Percentage of own children 6-17 years with all parents in labor force.....	87.0	79.7	94.3	?

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.

Spencer	Point Estimate	Range of Likely Values		Data Quality Flag
		Lower Bound	Upper Bound	
Income characteristics (\$)				
Median household income.....	44,716	41,557	47,875	?
Mean household income.....	60,753	50,235	71,271	?
Median family income.....	57,137	51,858	62,416	?
Mean family income.....	75,149	58,686	91,612	?
Per capita income.....	26,736	22,225	31,247	?
Families in poverty (number of families)				
All families in poverty.....	371	236	100	?
Married couple families in poverty.....	0	0	74	???
Male householder no wife present with related children in poverty.....	45	0	95	???
Female householder NHP with related children in poverty.....	280	153	100	??
Families at selected ratios of income to poverty level (number of families)				
Under 130%.....	487	353	100	?
130% to 149%.....	35	3	67	???
150% to 184%.....	204	106	100	??
Poverty rates for selected family types (% in poverty)				
Families with related children under 18 years.....	20.8	12.5	29.1	?
Female householder NHP w/related children under 18 years.....	58.1	39.9	76.3	?
Child poverty rates* (% in poverty)				
All children.....	20.0	11.1	28.9	??
Related children under 5 years of age.....	27.8	11.3	44.3	??
Related children ages 5-17 years.....	16.7	9.5	23.9	??

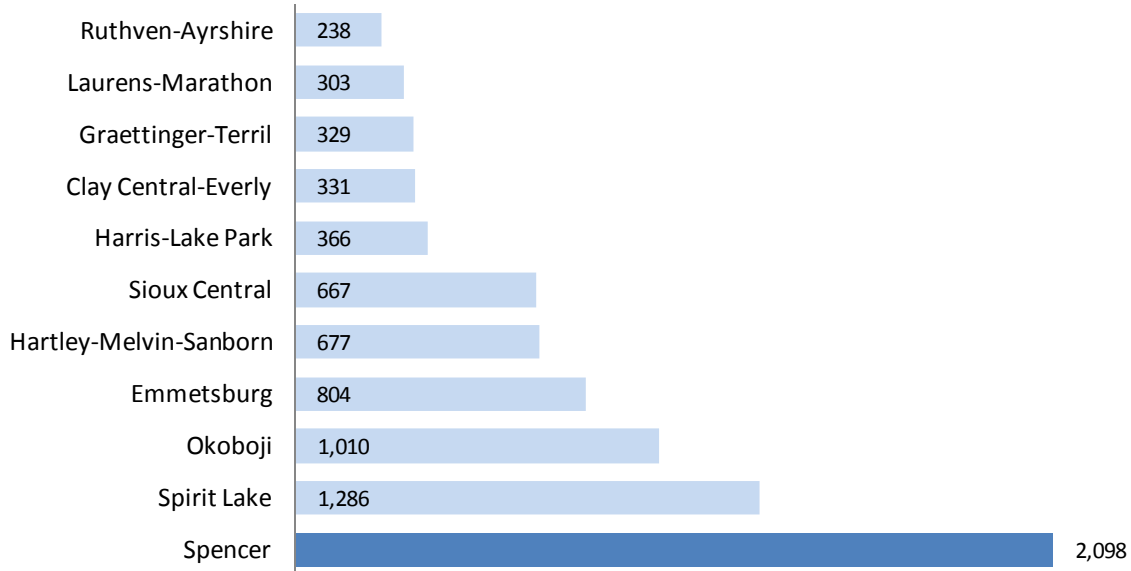
*Note: The child poverty rates reported above may differ from the single-year estimates reported on Page 2, which were obtained from the Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) program, U.S. Census Bureau. SAIPE estimates, which the Census Bureau considers more precise, are used for Title I allocations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

DATA QUALITY KEY

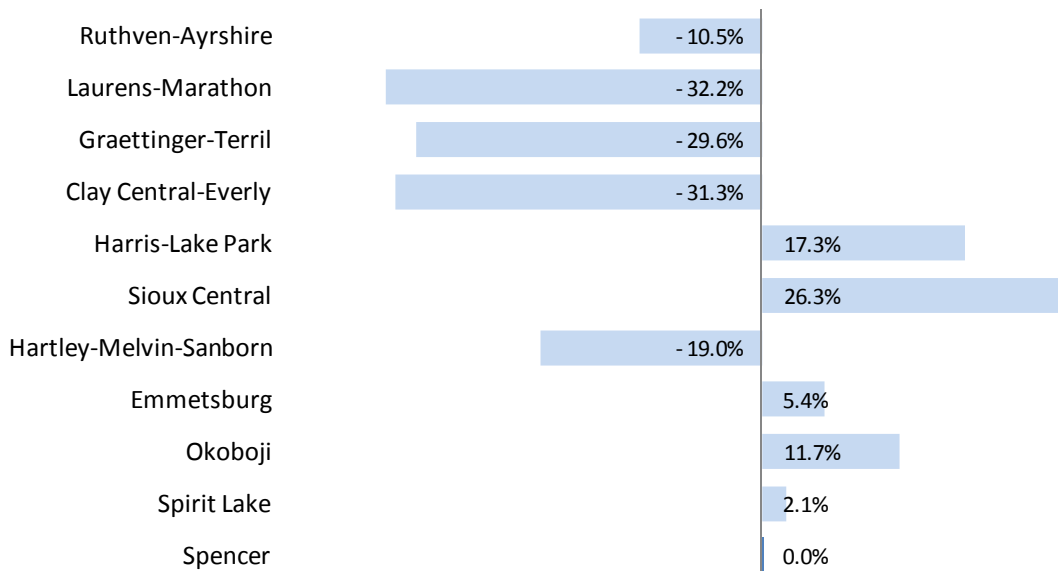
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Neighboring District Comparison Charts

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

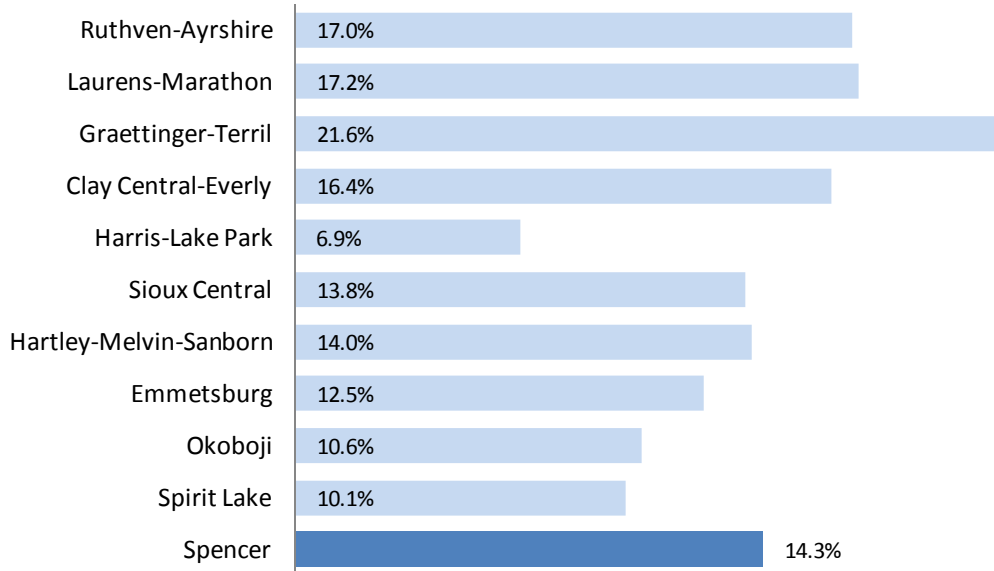


Ten-Year Percentage Change in PK-12 Enrollment, 2002-2003 to 2012-2013 (Iowa Department of Education)

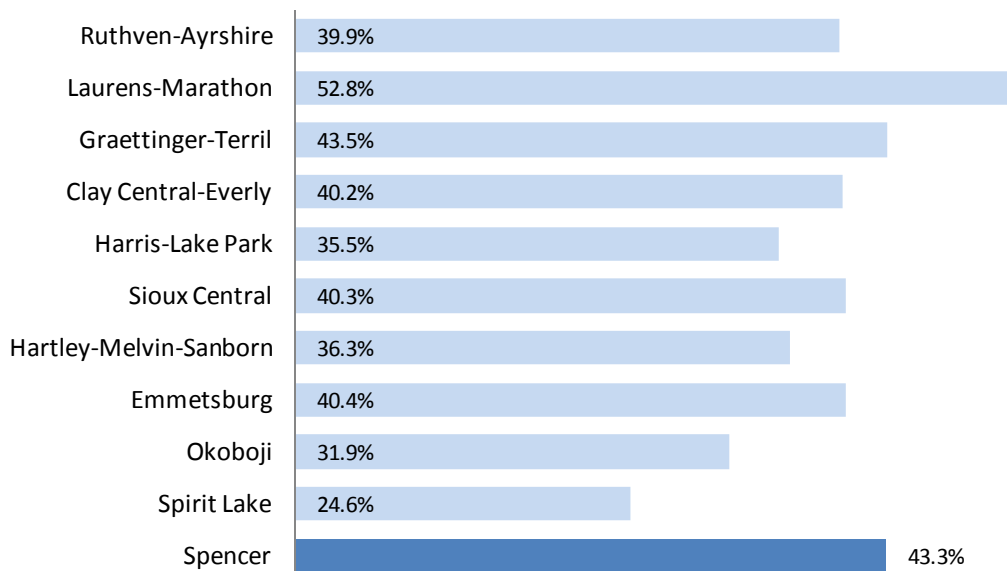


Neighboring District Comparison Charts

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

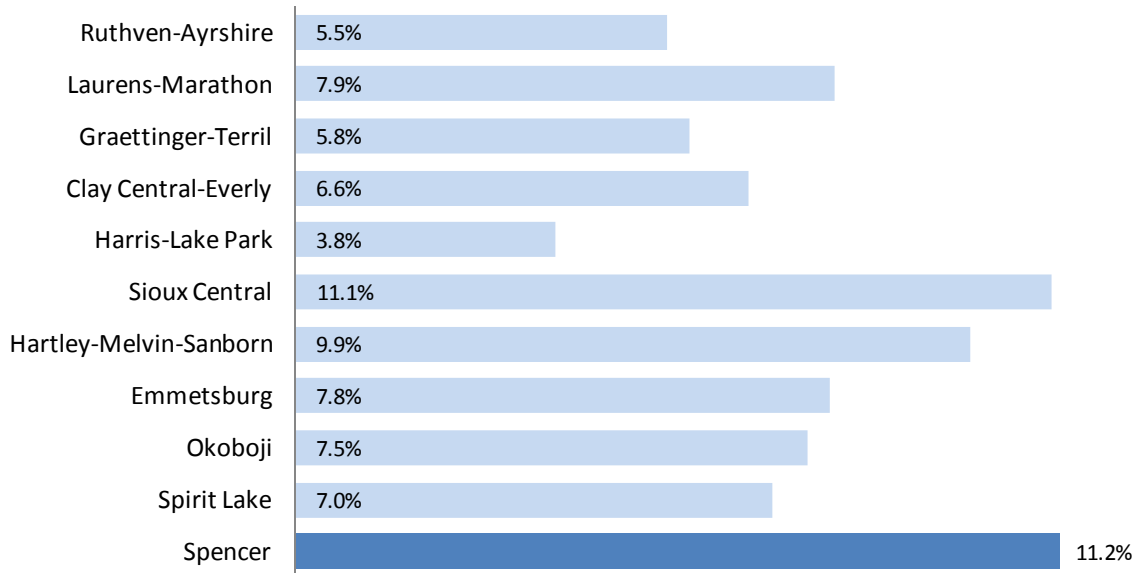


Percentage of Students Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Lunch, 2012-2013
(Iowa Department of Education)

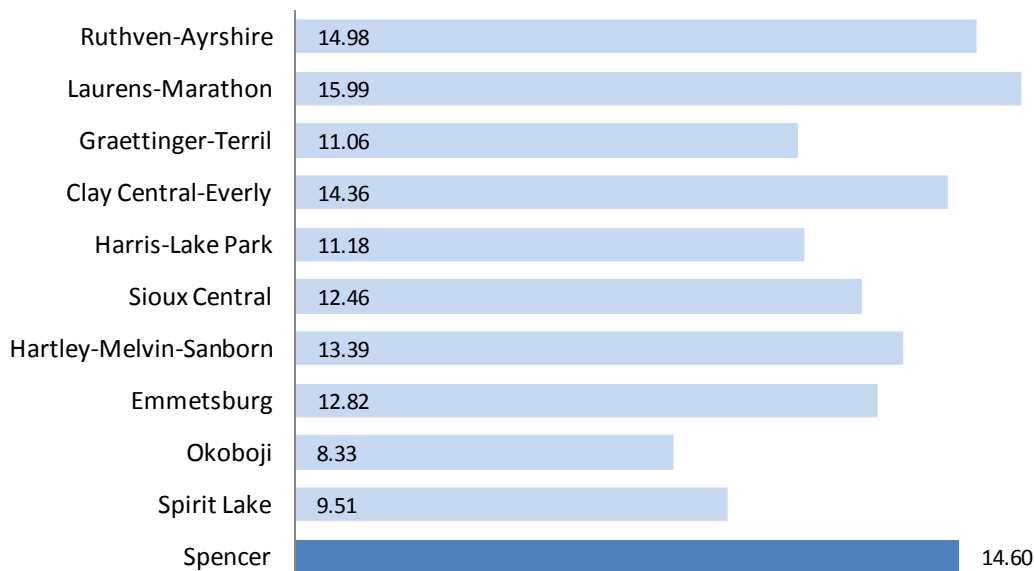


Neighboring District Comparison Charts

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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