



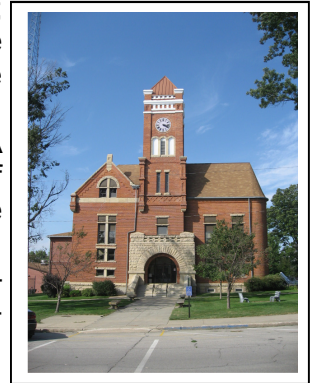
Tama County, Iowa
Economic Development

Toledo, Iowa

The story of Toledo...

Toledo was chosen the county seat of Tama County in 1853 and its downtown area is full of landmarks on the National Register of Historic Places including the Tama County Courthouse which was built in 1866 at a cost of \$25,000. Nearly 95% of the County Courthouse clock tower's clock is original and has been completely restored; inner workings of the clock are on display on the second floor of the courthouse. The Wieting Theater was built in 1912 and given to the people of Toledo by Mrs. Philip Wieting in memory of her husband. The former Toledo fire station was built in 1875 and has been completely renovated into a private residence and features a swimming pool and elevator. Hotel Toledo was built in 1901 and still serves travelers and permanent guests; its lobby has a marble floor, elegant beamed ceiling and grand fireplace. The Tama County Historical Museum and Genealogical Library is housed in the former county jail which was built in 1870; a restored log cabin is on site. Toledo is home to the original "Butter Cow Lady", Norma (Duffy) Lyon. A bronze cow/calf sculpture was erected on the hilltop at the intersection of Highways 30 & 63 in her honor and the Toledo Library has a display case dedicated to her achievements.

Toledo celebrates Independence Day with a 5K run and fireworks and Christmas with lots of holiday activities. A farmers market sets up shop every Friday afternoon on the courthouse square between May and October.



Location: Toledo is located in east central Iowa at the intersection of U.S. highways 30 & 63. Toledo is centrally located between three of Iowa's largest cities—Cedar Rapids, Waterloo, and Des Moines. I-80 is just 20 miles south, I-35 is 55 miles west, and I-380 is 50 miles east of Toledo.

Population: 2,687 (2005).

Per Capita Income: \$16,293 (2000); county average \$24,112 (2002); state average, \$28,089 (2002); median household income \$33,750 (2000).

Geography/Climate: Gently rolling mid-continent farmlands. Four seasons. A few brittle cold winter days may not rise above zero; a few sultry summer days may reach high 90's. July average temperature is 72; January average temperature is 14. Precipitation averages: 35 inches of rain, 32 inches of snow.

Employment: Corn, soybeans, cattle, & hogs anchor the agricultural economy. Larger payrolls: Iowa Juvenile Home, Tama County, Pioneer Hi-Bred.

Financial Institutions: 2 commercial banks State Bank of Toledo has two local branches with total deposits of \$69,818,000; Home Federal Savings Bank has 11 branches nationwide with total deposits of \$727,454,000.

Newspaper: Toledo Chronicle, published Tuesdays. One-year subscription: \$39.00; Subscribe to both Toledo Chronicle & Tama News Herald for \$52.40/year. Other regional newspapers: Marshalltown Times Republican, Des Moines Register, Cedar Rapids Gazette, El Heraldo Hispano.



Communications: 1 local radio station, KZAT 95.5FM in twin city, Tama. Local Public Access, Cable and broadband available via Mediacom. Phone service and High Speed DSL internet via Iowa Telecom.

Utilities: Alliant Energy provides electric service & natural gas for residents of Toledo. Alliant offers a rebate for customers who build an energy-efficient home. Water & sewer are provided by the City of Toledo.

Health Care: Marshalltown Medical & Surgical Center and Grinnell Regional Medical Center have satellite medical offices in Toledo. One nursing home, 5 dentists in local practice.

Schools: South Tama County Community School District: enrollment of 1751; 14.4 students per teacher, \$6,499 spending per student. State ACT average 22; SAT average 1204, graduation rate 89.4%. Kids Corner Daycare Center, built in 2006 has a capacity of 132 children.

Educational Level: 4% of Toledo residents have an associate's degree; 6% have a bachelor's degree; 1% have a graduate or professional degree.

Library: Toledo Public Library has 28,000 books & serial volumes, 8 public internet terminals, total circulation of 30,537. Circulation of children's materials: 14,426, children's program attendance: 651.

Recreation: a city park (playground, baseball diamond, soccer field, Frisbee golf), new aquatic center built in 2005, rec trail spanning the western edge of Toledo and neighboring Tama. Swimming, fishing, boating at Otter Creek Lake & Park, northeast of Toledo.

Housing: Median value of housing units in Tama County (2000) is \$64,200; median gross rent of units in Tama County (2000) is \$418. Toledo offers 75% tax abatement on new housing construction for five years.

Taxes: State sales tax rate is 5% plus Toledo's local option sales tax is 1% and school infrastructure local option tax is 1% for a total sales tax rate of 7% in Toledo. State income tax rates range from 0.36% to 8.98% plus a base rate.

Churches: Presbyterian, Methodist. Catholic, Baptist & Lutheran in twin city Tama.

Further Information:

City Clerk's Office

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Tama-Toledo Chamber of Commerce

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Tama County Economic Development

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