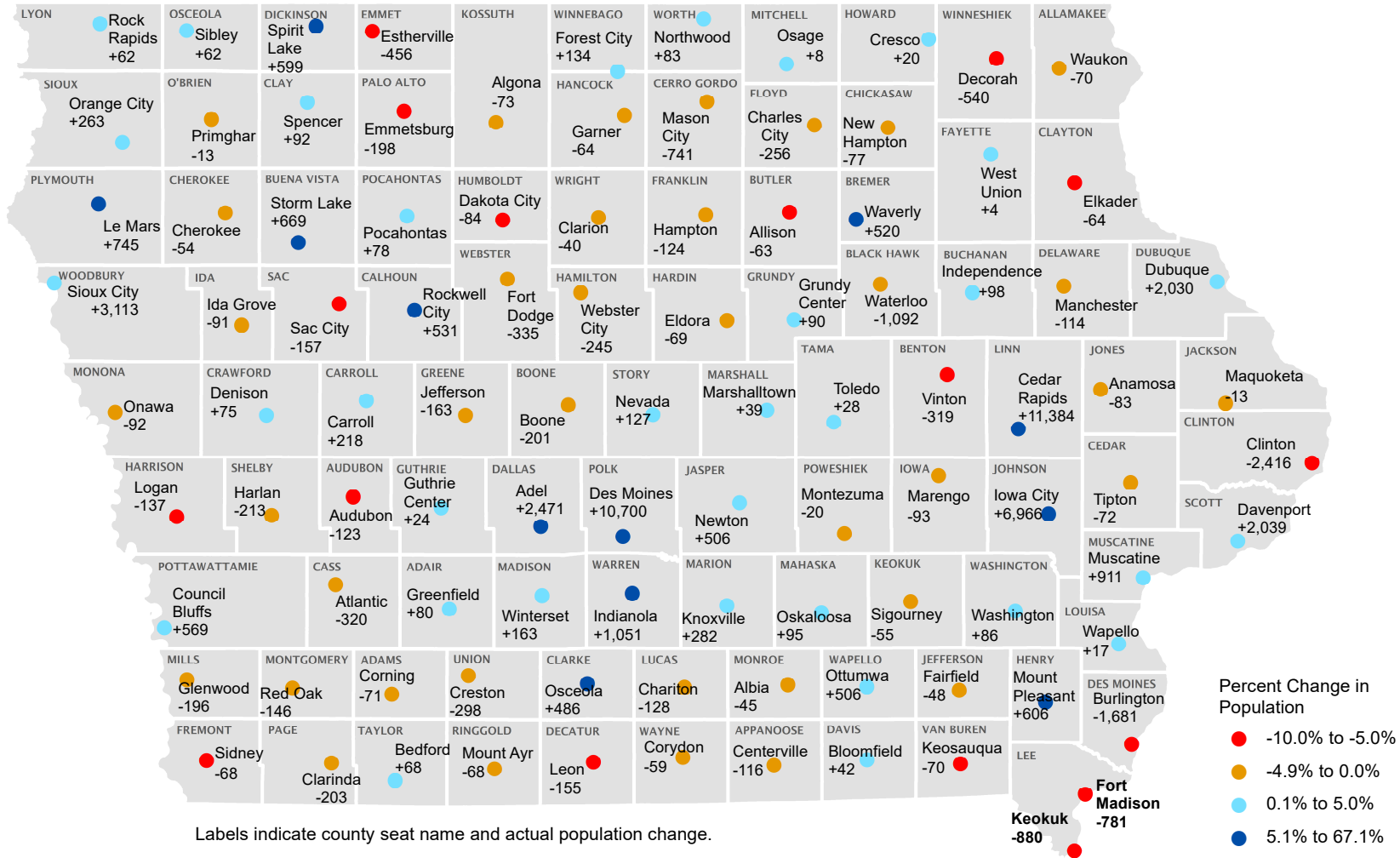


U.S. Decennial Census — Population Change in County Seats from 2010 to 2020

Iowa Code uses “county seats” as a designation for a variety of matters, and Iowa case law defines a county seat as the place properly designated for doing the business of the county, where public buildings are to be erected, where the courts are held, and where county offices are located.

Although Iowa has 99 counties, there are actually 100 county seats in Iowa. Lee County maintains two county seats. Due to a rivalry in the mid 1800s between two population centers in the county, Keokuk and Fort Madison, the Iowa Legislature [granted](#) Lee County the authority to maintain two county seats.



Sources: U.S. Decennial Census, Way v. Fox, 109 Iowa 340, 80 N.W. 405 (1899), LSA Calculations
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